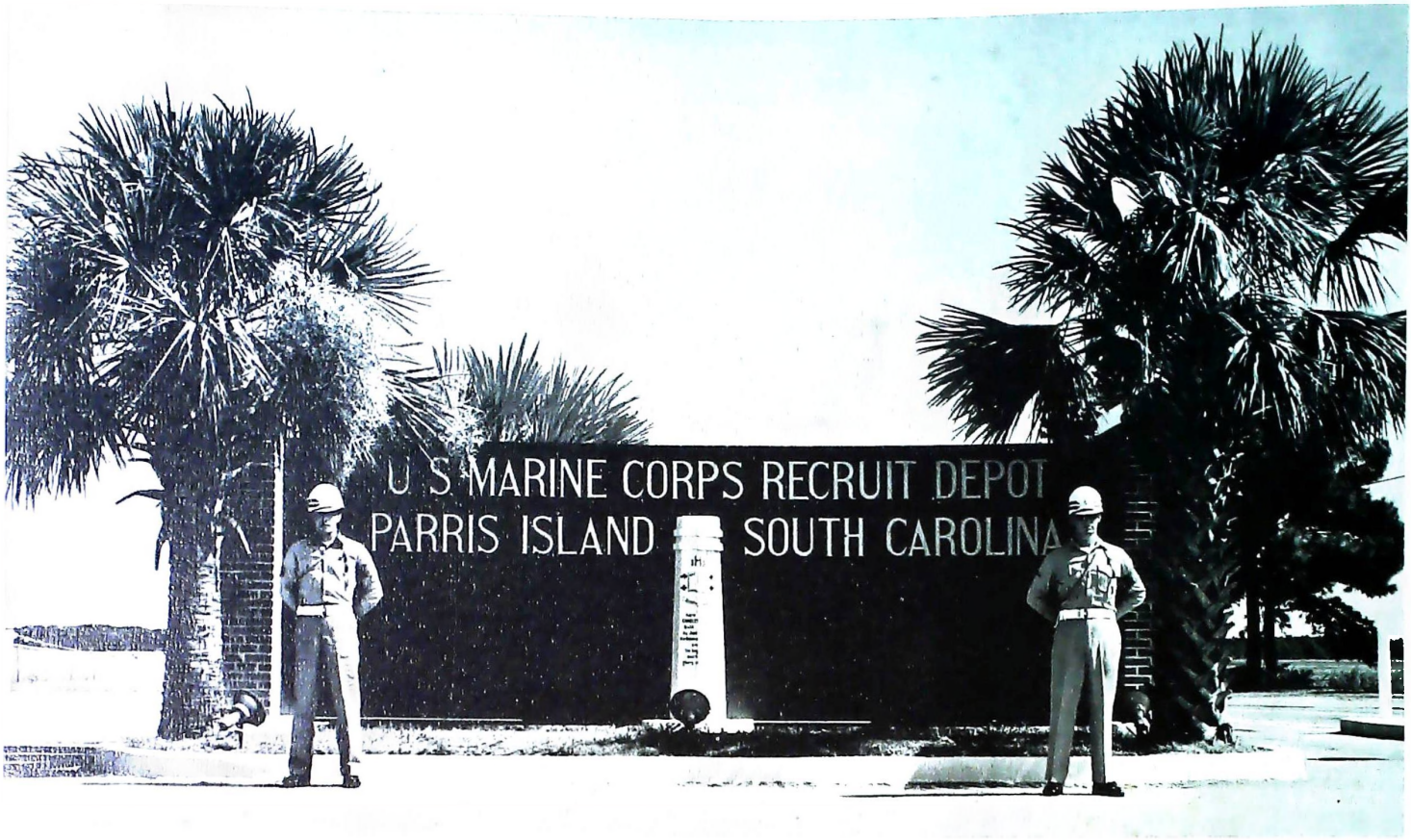
Marine Corps

RECRUIT DEPOT

PARRIS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

SECOND BATTALION

PLATOON 171



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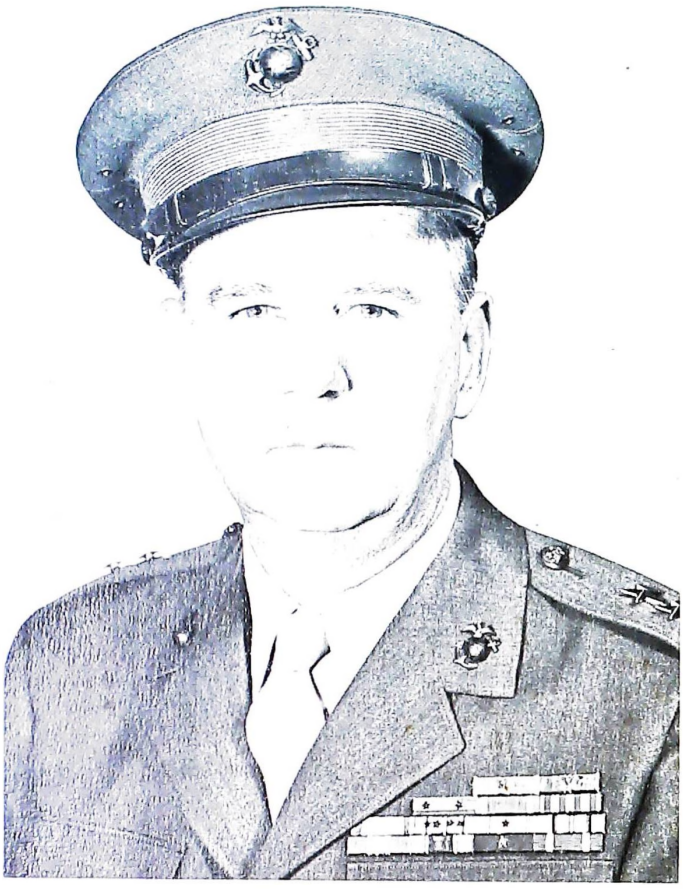
MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT

PARRIS ISLAND SOUTH CAROLINA



MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT B. LUCKEY

USMC

Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT BURNESTONE LUCKEY, who saw action with Marine Artillery units at Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester, and Okinawa in World War II, and is also a veteran of pre-war sea duty and expeditionary service in Nicaragua and China, assumed duty as Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, on 3 July 1957.

During World War II, among other jobs the General served as Regimental executive officer; of the 11th Marines at Guadalcanal and Cape Gloucester and as commander of the 15th Marines (artillery) at Okinawa, Guam and Tsingtao, China during the surrender and repatriation of Japanese forces.

Since World War II, the General has served as Division Artillery Officer with the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune and commander of the 4th and 10th Marines. He commanded the Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., for two years, then returned to Camp Lejeune in July 1951 to serve as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 2nd Marine Division and later as Chief of Staff. In June 1953 he became Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps School at Quantico, Va.

In September 1954, General Luckey returned to Camp Lejeune where he served as Commanding General, Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic until June 1955. He then reported at Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D. C., as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 (Plans), and served in that capacity until June 1956, when he became Deputy Chief of Staff (Research and Development). The General was promoted to his present rank November 1, 1956.

In addition to the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal with Gold Star in lieu of a second, General Luckey holds the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon with two bronze stars, the Navy Unit Citation Ribbon; the Second Nicaraguan Campaign Medal; the China Service Medal; the American Defense Service Medal with Base clasp; the American Area Campaign Medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal with four bronze stars; the World War II Victory Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; the Nicaraguan Medal of Merit and the Chinese Order of the Cloud and Banner.

General Luckey was born July 9, 1905, in Hyattsville, Md., graduated from the University of Maryland in 1927, and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant August 6 of that year. He completed the Basic School for Marine Corps officers at the Philadelphia Navy Yard in February, 1928.

The General is married to the former Miss Cary Walker of Vineyard Haven, Mass. They have a daughter, Laura, and two sons, Thomas and William.

BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE R. E. SHELL

USMC

Commanding General, Recruit Training Command

BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE RICHARD EDWIN SHELL, whose outstanding service as a Marine artillery commander earned him a Legion of Merit Medal in World War II, assumed duty as Commanding General, Recruit Training Command, Parris Island, South Carolina, on 23 May 1957.

The General commanded the 2nd Battalion, 10th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, during the Guadalcanal, Tarawa and Saipan campaigns of World War II.

Following World War II, General Shell served on the Joint Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as a member of the Joint Strategic Plans Group, the National Security Council Staff, and Staff Assistant to the Joint Chiefs of Staff Representative to the National Security Council.

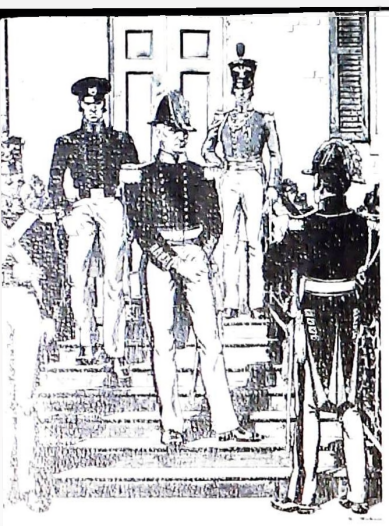
He also served as Staff Planning Officer in the Policy Branch, Plans, Policy and Operations Division, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe.

Prior to assuming command at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, he served as Commanding General, 1st Marine Brigade, Fleet Marine Force Pacific, in Hawaii.

In addition to the Legion of Merit and the Purple Heart Medal, General Shell's medals and decorations include the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, American Defense Service Medal with Fleet Clasp, Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal with three bronze stars, American Area Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal and National Defense Service Medal.

General Shell was born October 20, 1908, at Phoebus, Virginia, and graduated from high school at Hampton, Va., in 1927. He then attended the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, graduating in 1931 with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering. He was appointed a Marine second lieutenant on June 11, 1931. The following month he entered the Marine officer's basic school at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

General Shell is married to the former Alice Cushing, and they have three children: Elizabeth, Beverly and George.



PARRIS ISLAND DEPOT TRAINS

PARRIS ISLAND, home of basic training for today's Marines east of the Mississippi, has had a long and colorful history. Although the first Marine Corps activity on the island was in June, 1891, the story of its occupancy by the white man reaches back into antiquity for over three centuries.

Located off the South Carolina coast, Parris Island is midway between Charleston, S. C. and Savannah, Ga., opposite Port Royal, S. C. This flat, sandy piece of land covers an area of approximately 8400 acres and it's covered with the verdure of the semi-tropics.

Coming of the White Man

The first attempt of the white people to settle within the present bounds of South Carolina took place on Parris Island. Probably the first white man to discover the island was Velaquez de Ayllon, a Spaniard in search of slaves and gold. De Ayllon landed in 1526, named the island St. Helena, and claimed it for Spain. Fifty years later the French Huguenots, intent on planting a colony, landed at Parris Island.

Jean Ribaut and his Huguenot friends left France for America on February 18, 1562, and after a hazardous two months at sea, reached Parris Island, Ribaut built Charles Fort (Arx Carolina), named for Charles IX, King of France, on the southeastern tip of the island. Here he left the 26 men he hoped would form the nucleus of a colony and returned to France.

First Map Drawn

Historians are indebted to one member of this expendition in particular. He was a cartographer named Lenoyne, a man of considerable ability, who drew a map of the region. The map firmly establishes that Charles Fort was located on Parris Island. In the office of the present day Commanding General are photographic copies of this ancient map and its legend in translation.

Charles Fort, long abandoned, was rediscovered in 1663 by William Hilton of Barbados while exploring the newly chartered province of Carolina.

A title to the island was established in 1700. In the year 1698, the Lords Proprietors of South Carolina made a grant to Major Robert Daniell in the extent of 48,000 acres. Parris Island was among the lands selected by Major Daniell, and the grant certificate, dated June 14, 1700 is still preserved.

Property Changes Hands

Before the end of the year in 1700, Port Royal Island, as it was then known, became the property of Edward Archer. In 1715, the public treasurer of South Carolina, Alexander Parris, secured title to the island. The present day name of "Parris Island" dates back to this ownership.

Down through the years Charles Fort became obscured by a dense growth of trees and underbrush, and the island itself became the site of seven plantations. At one time a row of slave huts stood near the site of the ancient Fort.

In 1861, during the War Between the States, a fleet of Federal vessels anchored off Port Royal, bombarded and captured Fort Beauregard and Fort Walker on Bay Point and Hilton Head. Marines and seamen held the Forts and surrounding territory until relieved by the forces of General Sherman.

Shipping Center

In olden days the harbor of Port Royal was used extensively as a shipping point for foreign and coastwise shipping. It was such a fine natural harbor that the entire United States Fleet rode at anchor there in 1874.

The Marines landed on June 26, 1891. On that day First Sergeant Richard Donovan, USMC, and a small detachment of Marines were posted on Parris Island for duty with the Naval Station. This Marine Corps post rendered outstanding service in preserving life and property during the hurricane and tidal wave disaster of 1893. The unit was again commended for heroic action during the severe storms of 1898.

Training School Set Up

The first Marine Corps school started on the island was the Officers school that was established in 1909. Two years later a small recruit depot was set up, only to be transferred later to Norfolk, Virginia, and to Charleston, South Carolina. The buildings that were built for the Marine Corps on Parris Island then reverted to the Navy for use as Naval Disciplinary Barracks.

The navy turned back the Parris Island facilities to the Marine Corps on November 1, 1915, and the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, then stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, moved back to the island, Parris Island has remained in the hands of the United States Marine Corps from that day to the present time.

The Government took over the entire island in 1917, and utilized the facilities to train our Marines for World War I.

Rediscovering the Old Fort

In 1923, the site of old Charles Fort underwent a careful excavation and most of the stout cedar stockade was found to be still in existence. Such pieces as 5-inch cannon balls and rusted, handwrought iron spikes were found to add to the island's ancient Indian relics. With much of the ancient fort exposed, photographs were taken, and the area carefully covered over again with sand. Concrete pillars were set to give the corner markers of the fort and the area converted into an attractive park.

Prior to 1929, all transportation to and from the island was by way of small boats which operated between the post docks and Port Royal. In that year the Horse Island Bridge and causeways were completed to end the era of water transportation. The latter additions of the Battery Creek Bridge and the out-going side of the Horse Island Bridge have made for easy access to the island.

Construction Changes

During 1929 through 1931 economy was the watchword and expansion was curtailed. In 1937, however, existing Main Station barracks were torn down for the construction of the present day brick barracks.

Recruit training on a battalion basis was not introduced until August 1940. With the organization of the First Battalion on August 6th came in quick succession the formation of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Battalions. The intake skyrocketed after Pearl Harbor with 5,272 recruits arriving during that fateful December alone. A record 9,206 arrivals was set in January as the 9th and 10th Battalions were added to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Battalions. As the war influx continued, five of the existing battalions were sent to New River, North Carolina to train: then the 11th, 12th and 13th Battalions were activated.

Slowdown Commences

The eventual cutback started in 1944 when the 12th and 13th Battalions were disbanded. In September, with the intake reduced to 1,556, the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Recruit Battalions were deactivated. Towards the end of 1945, Battalions 5 and 6 were finally disbanded.

Between 1941 and 1945 a total of 204,509 recruits were trained at Parris Island. At the time of the Japanese surrender, the island housed 20,000 recruits, the largest number in the history of the Recruit Depot.

War's Aftermath

After World War II the depot was staggered by one of history's most rapid demobilizations. At one time prior to the outbreak in Korea, only two recruit battalions were in operation.

In December, 1946, the organization of the Post was revised and the official designation became Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island.

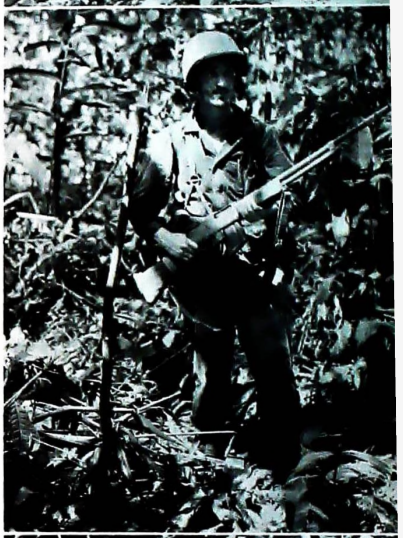
Activities on the island began to take a sharp increase in the summer of 1950 when a large number of reserves reported for active duty along with the recruits. Battalions were re-established gradually to handle the increase and in February, 1951, the 7th Battalion was reactivated for the first time since August, 1944.

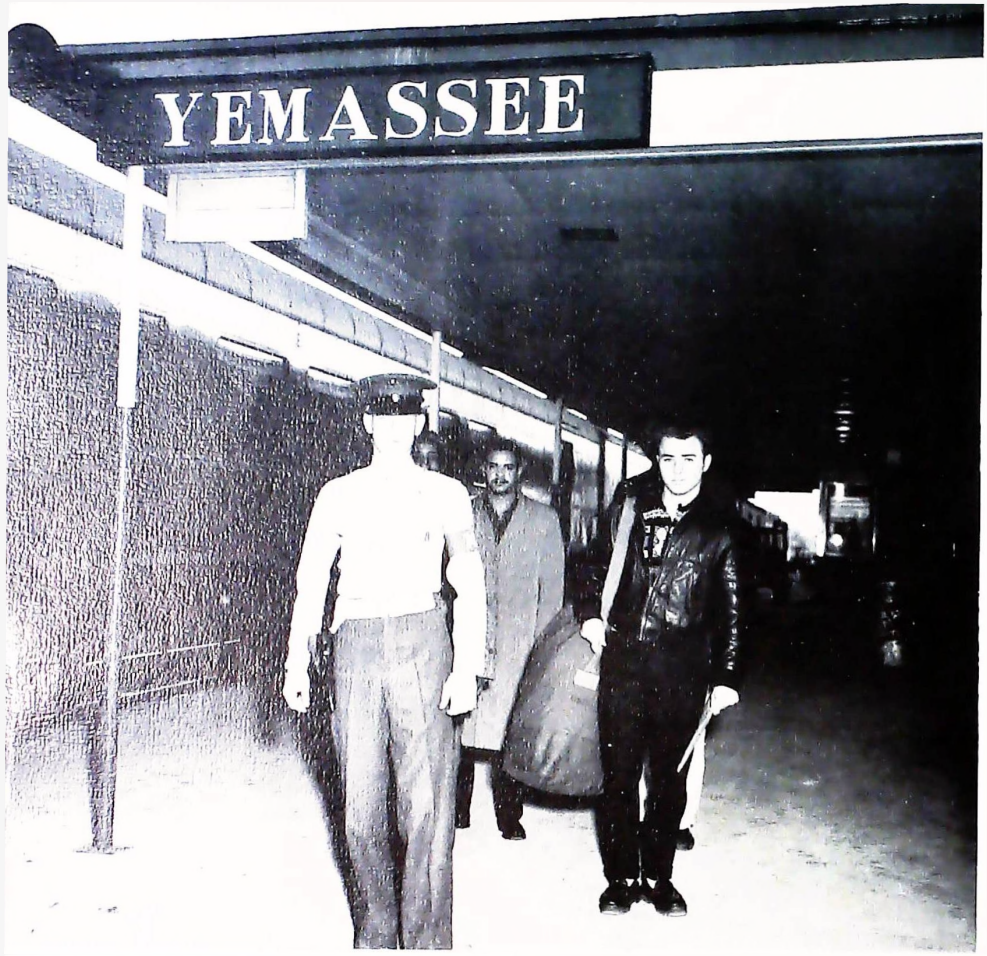
The 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, which formerly trained women marines, was deactivated as such on 1 May 1945. On 21 September 1955, the first Women Marine Training Battalion was organized. This is the only female training battalion in existence in the Marine Corps today.

Recruit Training Command

On 4 May 1956 the Recruit Training Command was organized under the direction of Brig. General Wallace M. Greene, Jr. This command is under the administrative control of the Commanding General of the Depot.

OUR FINEST FIGHTING MEN





FROM their original departing stations, railway passenger train service ends for the recruits in nearby Yemassee, S. C. Here Marines from the Receiving Barracks meet each train and take charge of all arriving recruits.

A short walk from the train depot brings the recruit to the Receiving Station where he begins his checking in. According to the time of arrival in Yemassee, the recruit may spend the night in the receiving Barracks or go directly to Parris Island by bus.

AFTER checking in through the main gate, the first stop aboard Parris Island for the recruit is the Receiving Section, where he turns in his orders and is assigned to a Platoon. It is here that he meets for the first time his Drill Instructor: the man whose orders he will follow for the next twelve weeks of Marine Training.

After being assigned to a platoon, the recruit gets a chance to meet his fellow platoon members while waiting for the processing to finish, and he gets a first look at the spacious grounds and drill field near the Receiving Station.

RECEIVING Section processing completed, recruits are put in formation and marched for the first time by their Drill Instructors to the next stop—Hygienics. Here they receive a hair cut—"Boot Camp" style—a close, neat-looking "crew cut." Also in Hygienics recruits get a preliminary medical check, take a thorough shower, and are issued their first uniforms to start them off on their training program.

PROCESSING IN

INITIAL ISSUE

INSIDE Hygienics during initial issue of clothing, things begin to move rapidly. Each recruit is fitted with utility shirts, trousers, caps, "skivvies," socks and field boots. Particular care is used in fitting the field boots on each recruit, and great emphasis is placed on care of the feet. Because the recruit will spend many hours on the drill field, proper-fitting boots are a must.

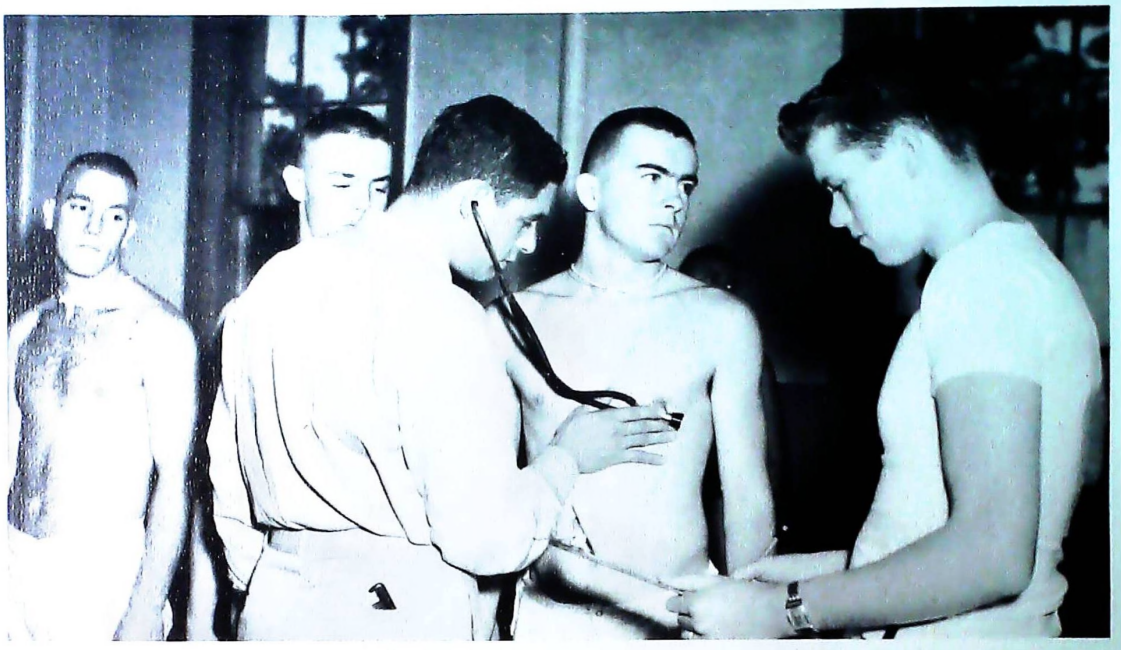
Neatness being a Marine tradition, all fittings are made under the watchful eyes of a witnessing officer, who insures that all clothing properly fits the individual.

At the completion of this first uniform issue, the civilian clothing worn to the Recruit Depot by the new recruits is carefully wrapped and mailed home.

Recruits then go to "PX Issue," where they receive laundry bags, shaving supplies, handkerchiefs, shoe polish, nail clippers, cigarettes, tooth brushes, and all other "health and comfort" supplies they will need during their first weeks at "boot camp."

SENDING CIVIES HOME

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

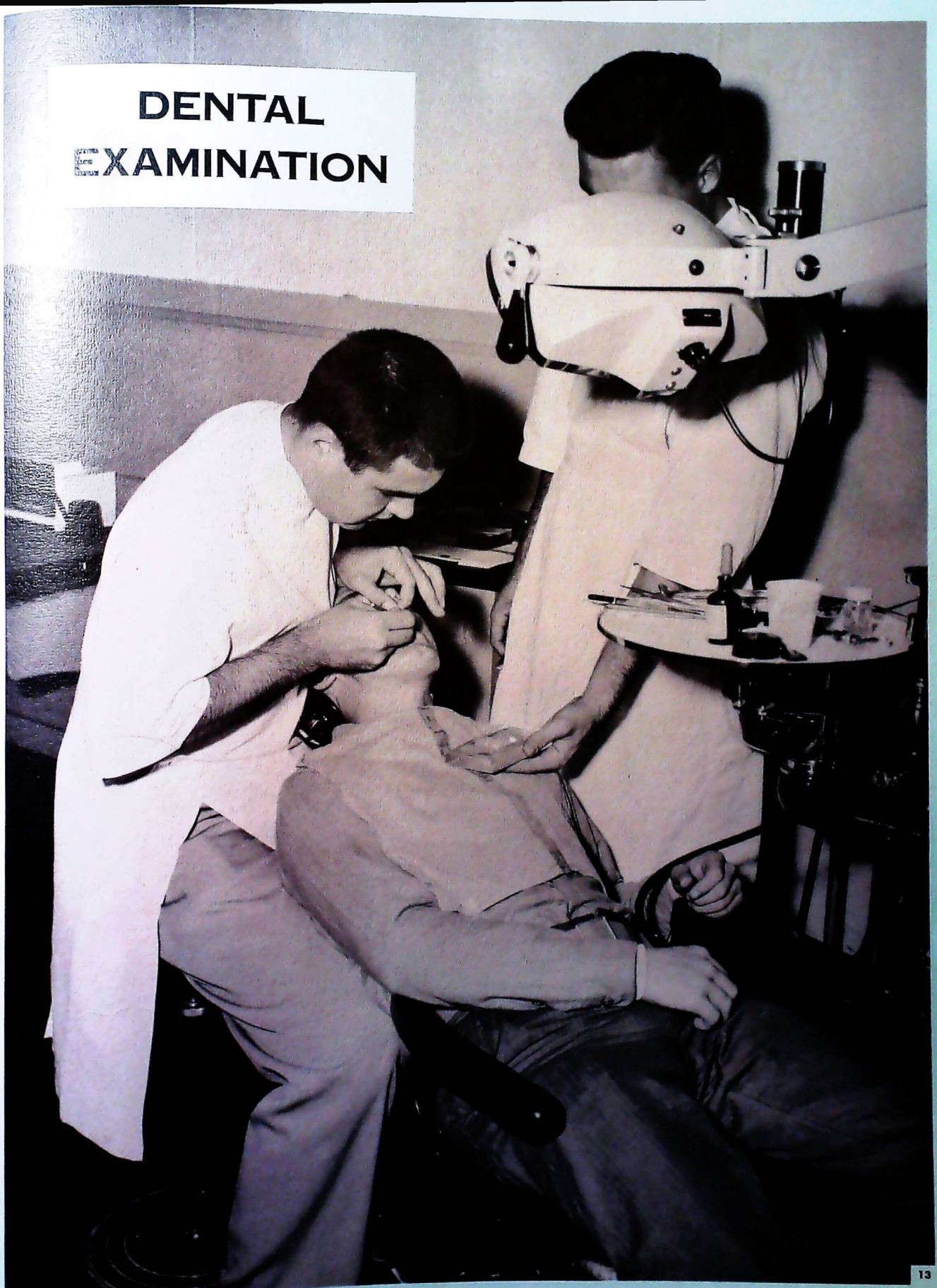


NEXT on the agenda for the recruits come the Dental and Medical Examinations. These examinations, some of the best physical check-ups given in the world, help to insure the safety of the recruit during his twelve weeks of rigid training.

Teams of Doctors and skilled technicians go over each man. Recruits are X-Rayed and inoculated, and a careful case history obtained for his health record.

The same meticulous care is given each recruit when he reaches Dental Examination; treatment for proper care of the teeth begins immediately and continues until each defect is corrected.

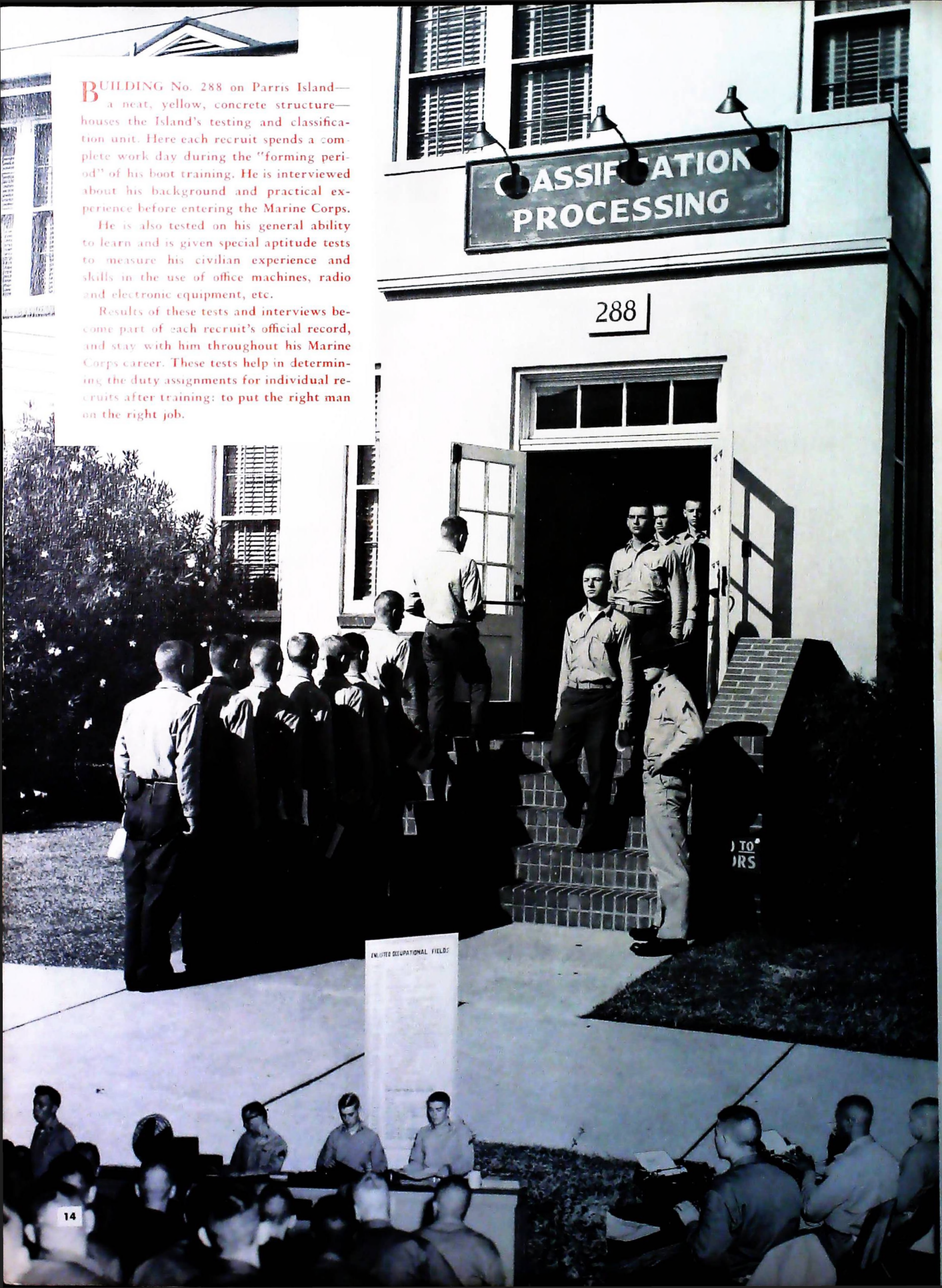
DENTAL EXAMINATION

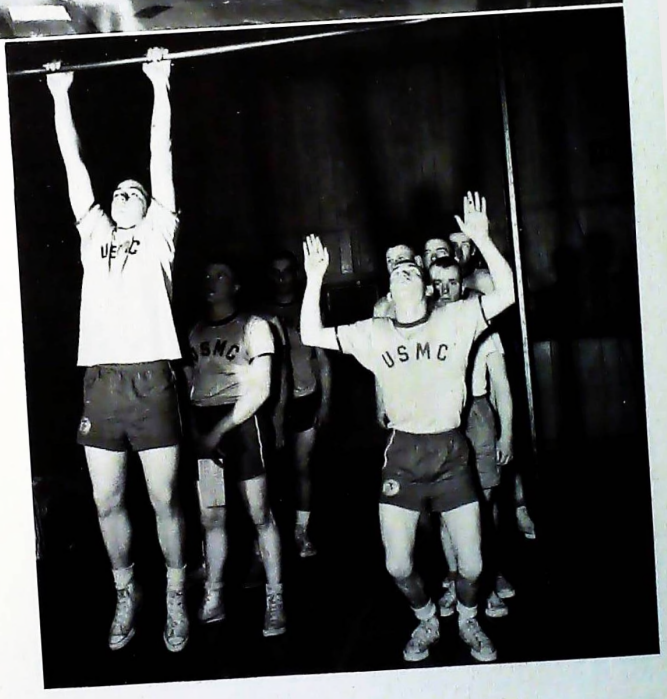


BUILDING No. 288 on Parris Island—a neat, yellow, concrete structure—houses the Island's testing and classification unit. Here each recruit spends a complete work day during the "forming period" of his boot training. He is interviewed about his background and practical experience before entering the Marine Corps.

He is also tested on his general ability to learn and is given special aptitude tests to measure his civilian experience and skills in the use of office machines, radio and electronic equipment, etc.

Results of these tests and interviews become part of each recruit's official record, and stay with him throughout his Marine Corps career. These tests help in determining the duty assignments for individual recruits after training: to put the right man on the right job.





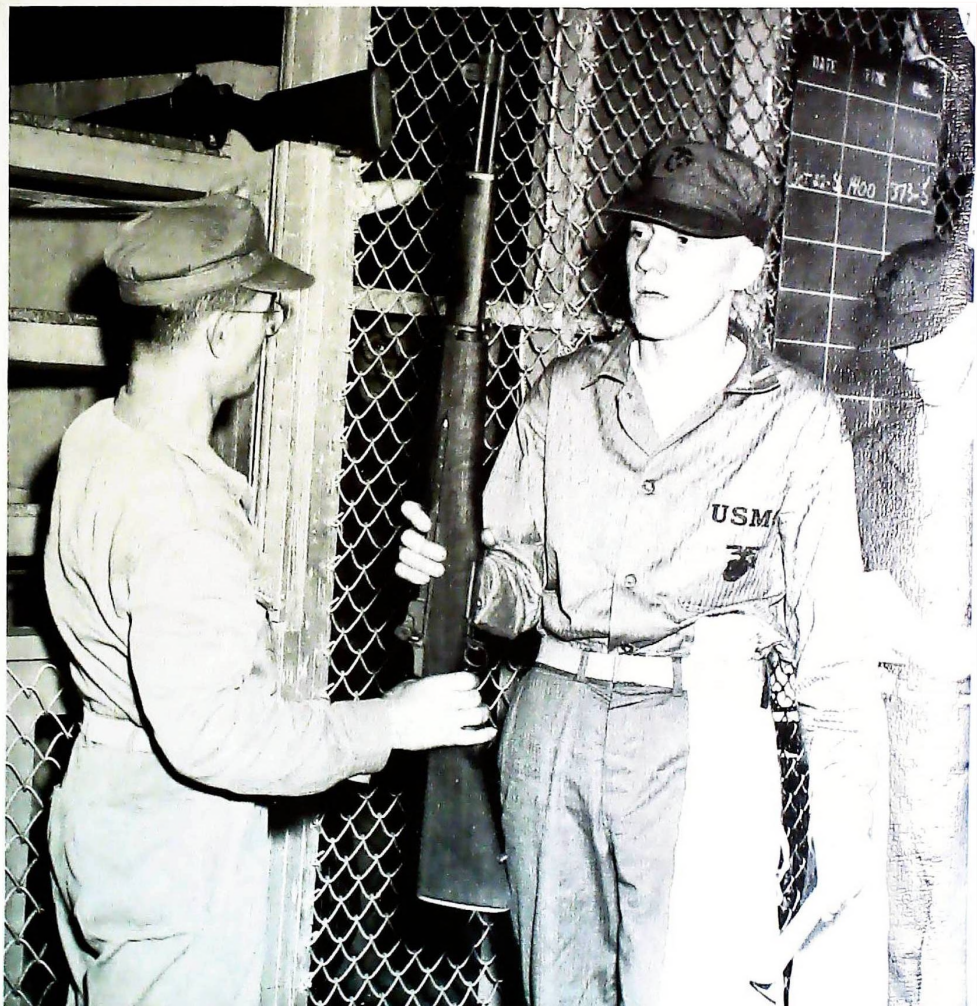
STRENGTH TEST

BEWILDERMENT creases the face of the recruit the first time he gazes on an alien assortment of straps, buckles and poles laid out for issue to him. Termed "782 Gear" in Marine vernacular, this equipment is given to the recruit at the beginning of his instruction at Parris Island. Training on its proper care and use begins in earnest at the time of issue. The recruit's first instruction covers the purpose and use of his "782 Gear" consisting of canteen, cup, cover, meat can, knapsack, haversack, shelter half, tent poles, pegs and other sundry items. He is taught to assemble the different field packs, beginning with the light marching pack and ending with the giant, 72-pound field transport pack, in which is carried individual bedding, shelter, rations and extra clothing for extended operations in the field.

EQUIPMENT ISSUE

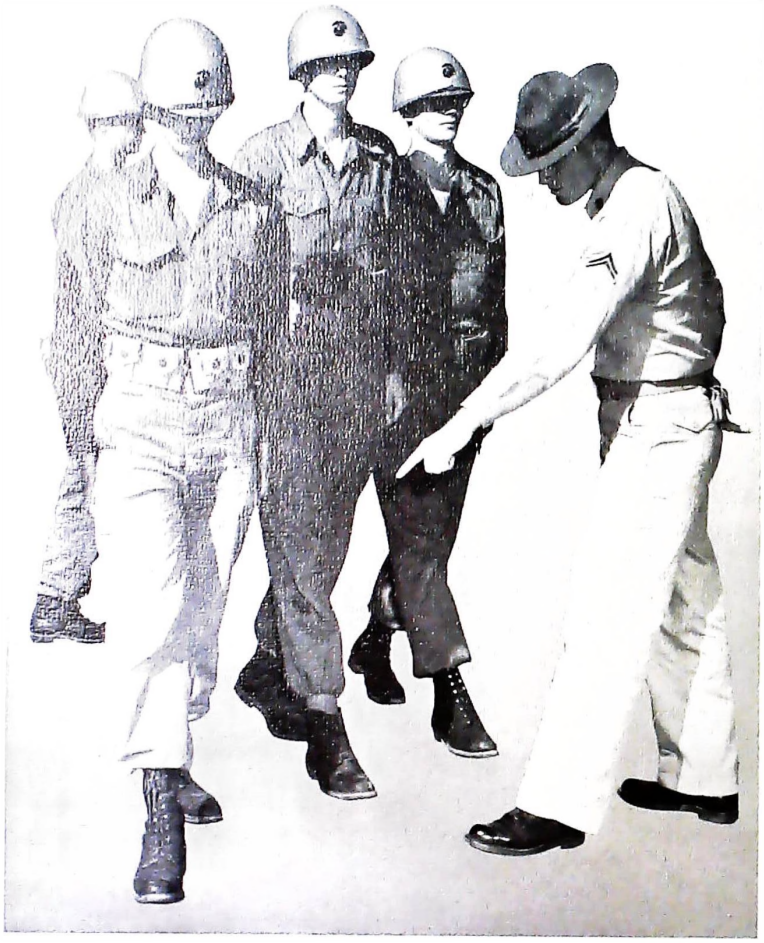
RIFLE ISSUE

THE M-1 Rifle, the Marine's Best Friend, is an item of separate issue. Each weapon is carefully inspected and its condition noted at the time of issue. His rifle will accompany him wherever he goes in the Marine Corps, and it will be frequently re-inspected. If any defects are caused by the Marine's own neglect or misuse of his rifle, he will be held responsible. Daily rifle inspections at boot camp teach the recruit his responsibility for the care of his rifle.



MAIN STATION

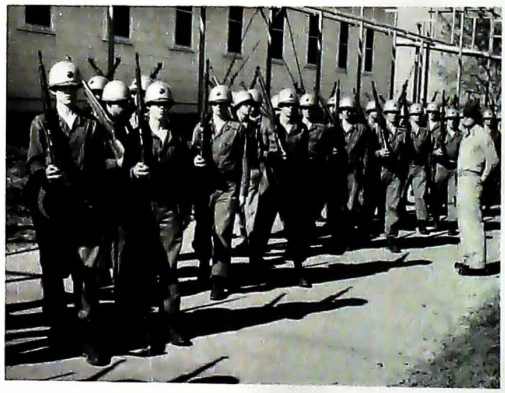
MILITARY STEPS



HWAN, hup, threep, fo, yo lef'—This is the heavy chanting cadence of the Drill Instructors, heard by the recruit from dawn until sunset. With the cadence ringing in his ears, drill commands begin to overcome confusion. Hands, body, feet, and mind begin to work as one. Each hour of instruction helps to mold a perfect pattern of movement for the recruits, until they function as a team.

Close order drill is taught to the recruits during their twelve-week stay at Parris Island. The military bearing and personal carriage of boot camp graduates is convincing evidence of the degree of perfection obtained in but a few short weeks.

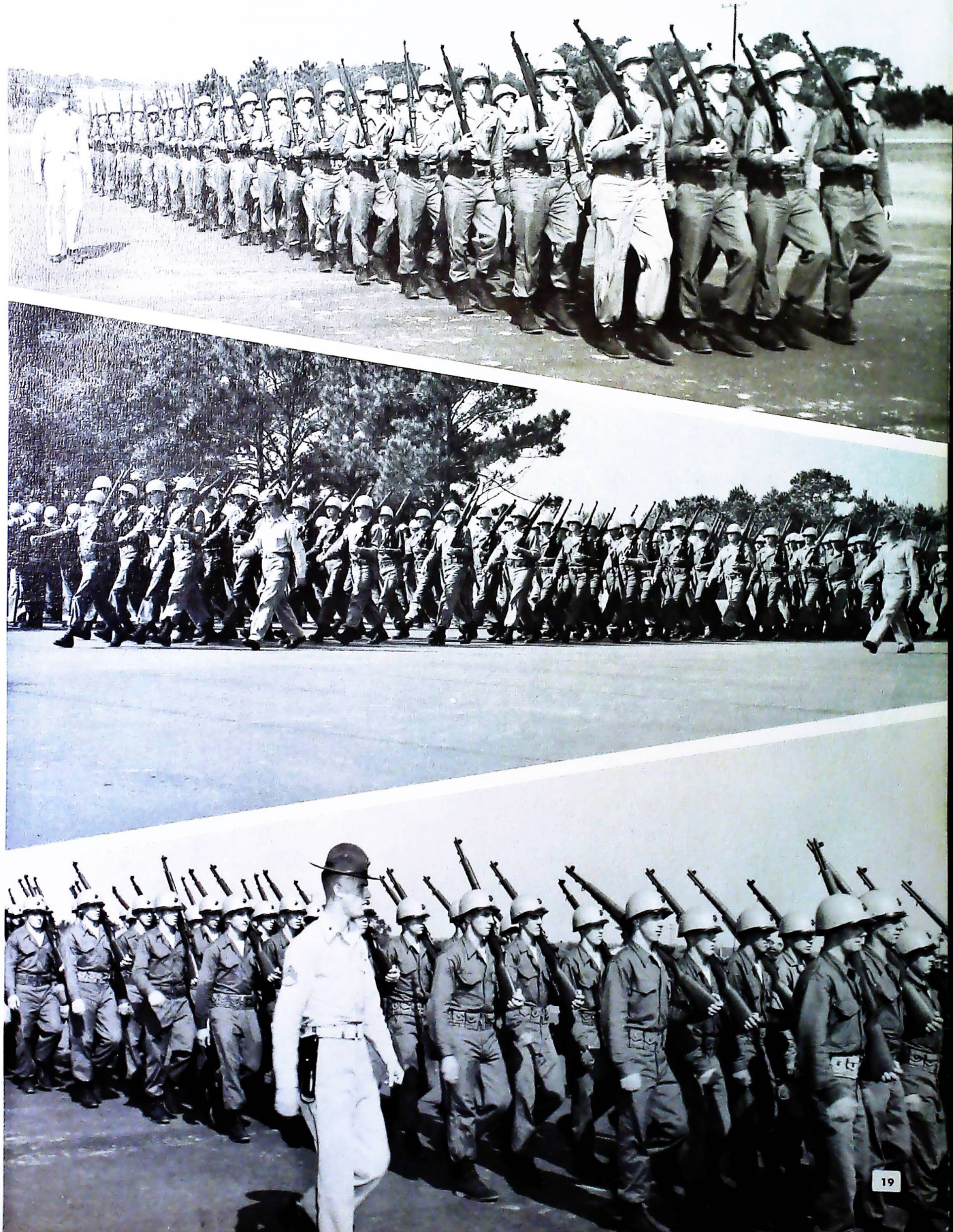
"Column Left, To The Rear, Squads Rightabout, Forward"—these and hundreds of other commands are learned by the recruit and put into practice daily. Many hours are spent in the instruction of drill because it plays an important role in the life of a Marine. Learning the commands, and then executing them, sharpens the thinking ability and alertness of a recruit, which helps him in other phases of his training.

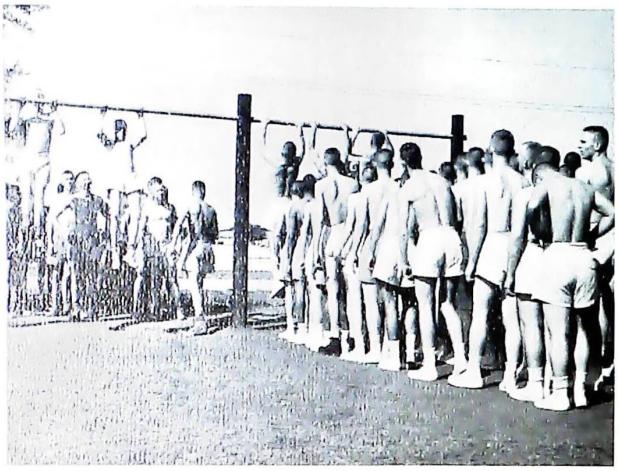


MANUAL OF ARMS

TO use it, you've gotta know how to hold it, so the recruit learns the Manual of Arms. This instruction teaches all of the movements and positions using the rifle. Learning the Manual of Arms is a challenge to each recruit and is a very important cycle of his education in becoming a Marine.

The recruit's best friend is his rifle, and the Manual of Arms is the way he gets to know and become familiar with this "friend." As this knowledge comes to the recruit, constant practice with the rifle increases the efficiency of his individual reflexes and coordination. Eventually, when commands are given to a platoon the rifles will snap into movement blended as one. Perfection in this field of training is traditional.





PHYSICAL

TRAINING

My Rifle

THIS is my rifle. There are many like it, but this one is mine. My rifle is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I master my life.

My rifle, without me is useless. Without my rifle, I am useless. I must fire my rifle true. I must shoot straighter than my enemy who is trying to kill me. I must shoot him before he shoots me. I will . . .

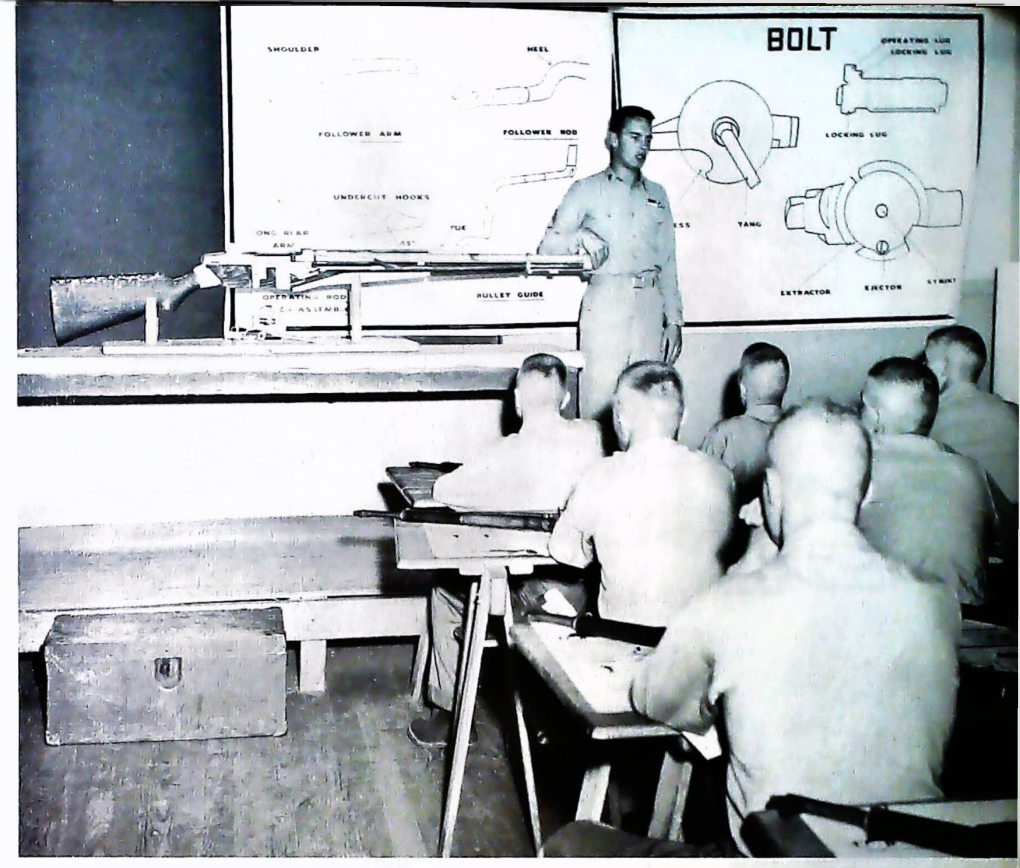
My rifle and myself know that what counts in this war is not the rounds we fire, the noise of our burst, nor the smoke we make. We know that it is the hits that count. We will hit . . .

My rifle is human, even as I, because it is my life. Thus, I will learn it as a brother. I will learn its weaknesses, its strength, its parts, its accessories, its sights, and its barrel. I will keep my rifle clean and ready, even as I am clean and ready. We will become part of each other.

We will . . .

Before God I swear this creed. My rifle and myself are the defenders of my country. We are the masters of our enemy. We are the saviors of my life.

So be it, until victory is America's and there is no enemy, but Peace!



MARINES have long been known for their excellent marksmanship. Therefore instruction in the use of the rifle is exacting and thorough. Recruits are taught the general characteristics, disassembly, assembly, functioning, care and cleaning. Instruction is given using both cut-away models and the recruit's own rifle, as lectures and individual participation.

RIFLE CLASS

Care and cleaning of the weapon is stressed heavily, since experience has shown that the majority of rifles that become unserviceable do so due to lack of care and not from firing. Each man is responsible for the care and cleaning of his own rifle.

Functions of the rifle are also stressed in order that it may be kept in proper working order. A man must automatically know what to do when his weapon fails to fire, since a failure to function in combat could be fatal.

CHOW

CHOW! The wonderful word that every recruit knows and loves to hear. Chow means good, hot food and plenty of it. The food is prepared by specialists who are trained to get the maximum of good food from their "budget." The raw materials are best obtainable anywhere; no "second-grade" food is used, and it is prepared in a way to make it appetizing as well as nutritious.

No recruit leaves the table hungry: if he wants a second helping he can get it. The menu is planned so as to change daily and prevent any monotony in the recruit's diet.

With the terrific amount of energy used up in the daily exercise that the recruits get, food, tops in energy and vitamin content, must be served. Balanced food diets, efficiency in preparing and serving, insure that the recruits get the best "chow" found anywhere.

GUARD DUTY

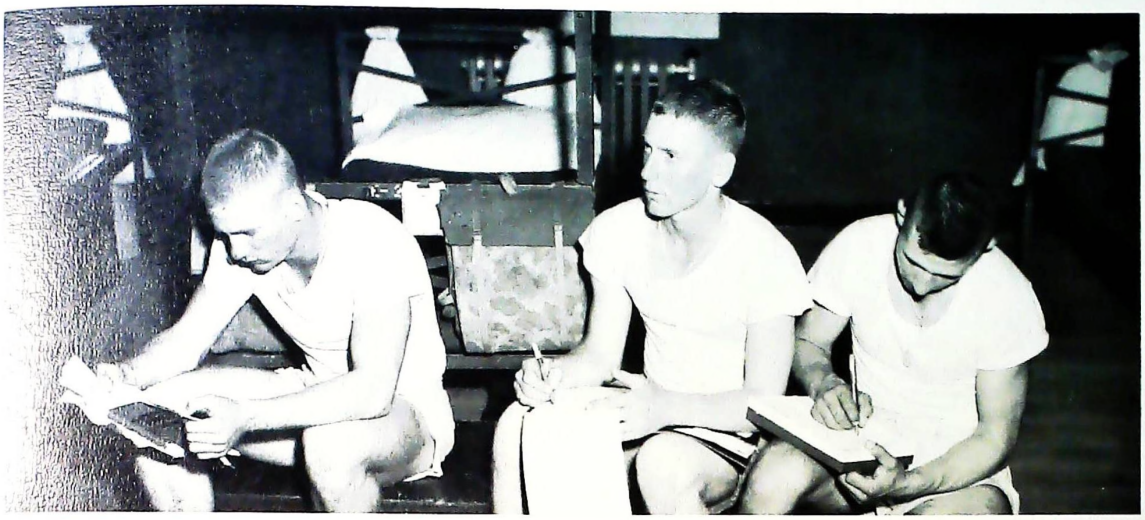
WASH

PRESS

AROUND the barracks, when recruits are not specifically on duty, they can be found washing clothes, ironing, cleaning rifles and gear, shining shoes, and writing letters home. Time for these and many other activities that are designed for the living comfort of the recruit is provided for in the daily training schedule each evening from 6 PM until taps.

From 5:30 A.M. until taps at 9:30 PM the recruit stays busy. During the daylight hours he is occupied with the job of "Becoming A Marine." Come dark, he can catch up on other things like doing his wash or writing home. For some, this time may mean extra instruction on something they did not fully understand during the day; but whether he takes a shower, reads the hometown newspaper or gets extra instruction, free time will be spent doing what will best benefit the recruit. After a busy day, all of them are ready to "Hit the sack," and recruits are glad to hear taps mark the end of another big day and the beginning of a full eight-hours of sleep.

FREE TIME



MAIL CALL

"MAIL CALL!!" Recruits eagerly await this call that brings news from home, friends, and that "special someone." After evening chow, mail is picked up from the Battalion Mail Room by the Drill Instructor and given out to the recruits in their barracks.

Next to Chow, mail call is the most sought-after activity in the day of a recruit. A letter from home giving the "Low Down" on the family and friends can do much to inspire better performance the next day. Picture the gloom settling over one bunk that did not get some long waited for mail.

Letters from home do much to ease the tension built up by the Training program and the physical activities that the recruits undergo.

By the same token, mail call gives the recruit time to write letters home telling of his new experiences and boasting just a little bit of his new prowess found while "Becoming a Marine." Most of the time the recruits find it best to answer a letter just after getting one, taking this opportunity to exchange news and views.

Recruits are urged to write often to their parents and friends, but no encouragement is needed when mail call is sounded to get the recruits to answer promptly.

AFTER lights out comes the lonely but important vigil of the "fire watch." In his hands rests the safety of his sleeping buddies.

FIRE WATCH

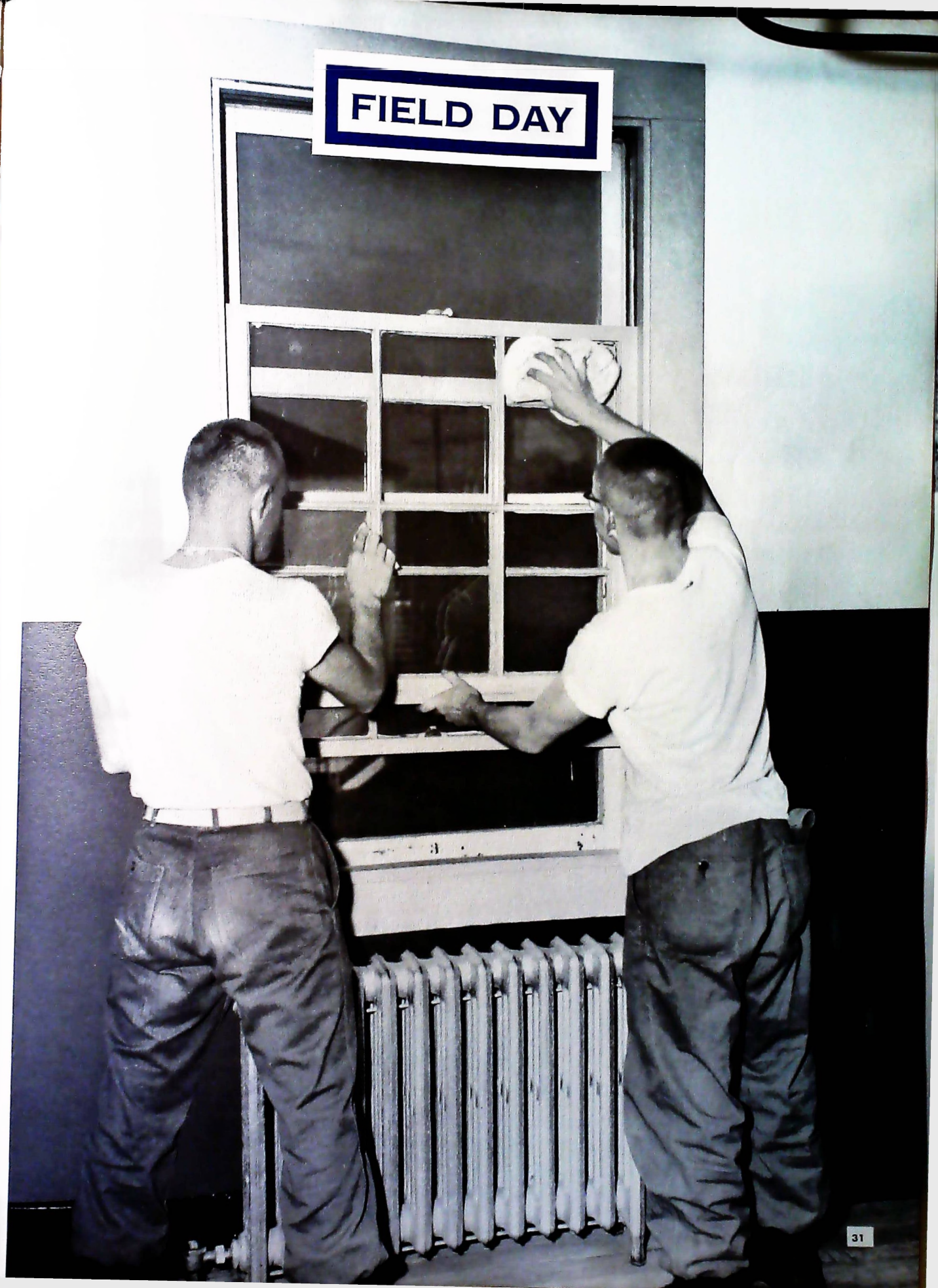
REPORTING

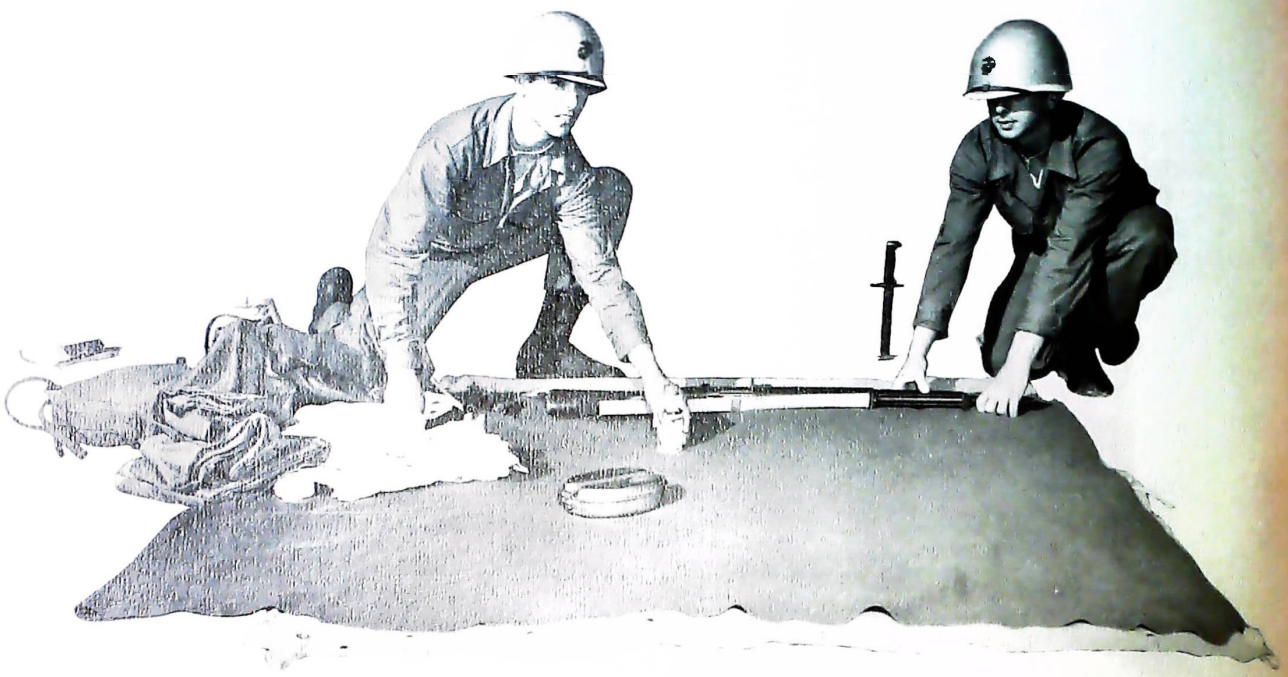
WHEN reporting to any of his Drill Instructors, or any other superiors in the Chain of Command, a recruit is taught the proper way to report. Designed to teach correct Military Courtesy and the rendering of respect where it is due, he learns this basic formality, making it easy for him to report to any superior officers in the future.

While in training, if a recruit is summoned to appear before his Drill Instructor within the instructor's room, before he enters he knocks loudly three times on the wall; when he is given permission to enter, he steps inside and comes to stiff attention, saying, "Sir. Pvt. Jones reporting to the Drill Instructor as ordered."

He learns by example the military courtesies Marines must know and the correct manner of rendering respect to his superior officers becomes "second nature" to him.

SOAP


FIELD DAY



GEAR LAYOUT

RECRUITS learn that there is a definite place for every item of equipment, and that everything must be in its place for inspection. Frequent classes of instruction in "Gear Layout" soon teach that there is only one way to do it—the Marine Corps Way!! Then when the inspecting officer comes along, he will be able to tell at a glance if any article is missing and how well the Marine is maintaining his equipment so that it is always in the proper condition to be immediately ready for use.

Gear Layout is important not only because it teaches the recruit the proper way to assemble the pack or lay it out for inspection, but also because he learns an orderly arrangement for stowing and carrying his gear while he is on maneuvers, in combat, or at any other time when he must move rapidly and be self-sufficient for a period of time in the "field."

The equipment displayed includes the shelter half, poncho, packs, mess gear, poles and ropes, toilet articles, underclothes, outerclothes, bedding, shoes, rifle, bayonet, and other items useful to Marines in combat and in the field.

RIFLE RANGE

MARKSMANSHIP INSTRUCTION

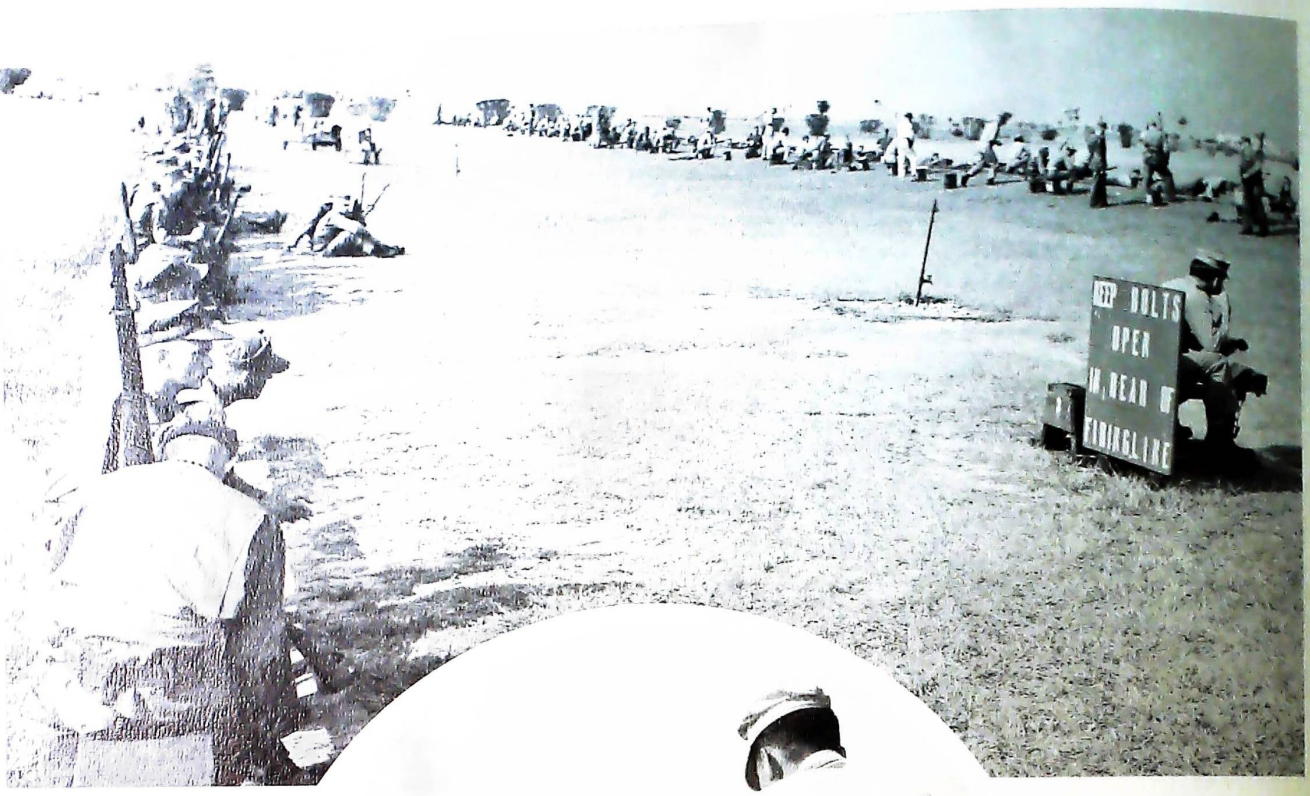
SNAPPING IN

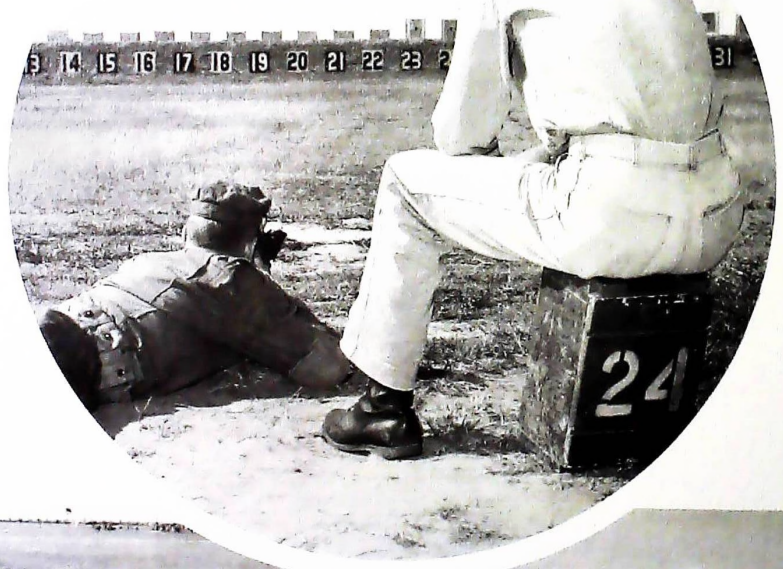
SNAPPING-IN, Marine terminology for "practice," begins with the first day of the three-week period spent at the rifle range and continues until record day. Rifle coaches believe in the old saying "practice makes perfect." The four positions used by all Marines in firing the range are uncomfortable and awkward at first. By record day, the three weeks of daily "snapping-in" have given the recruit the techniques and trained his muscles so that he assumes the proper positions quickly and easily. His rifle seems as much a part of him and as familiar as his arms and legs —as though he were "born to it."

Known by some as "dry-firing," snapping-in is the greatest asset in firing a high score. Various training aids or devices are used during the snapping-in period to teach the shooter the proper method of aiming and aligning his sights so his bullet will hit the bull's-eye.

Shooters operate the bolts of each others rifles while "dry-firing," to simulate rapid-fire shooting, to become familiar with their most stable position, and to help overcome "flinching" or "bucking" the shots.

Proper sling adjustment, trigger squeeze, use of the score book, safety rules, proper firing positions, and instructions on "pulling targets" for other shooters are also part of the instruction during the "snapping-in" period.


BOLTS
OPEN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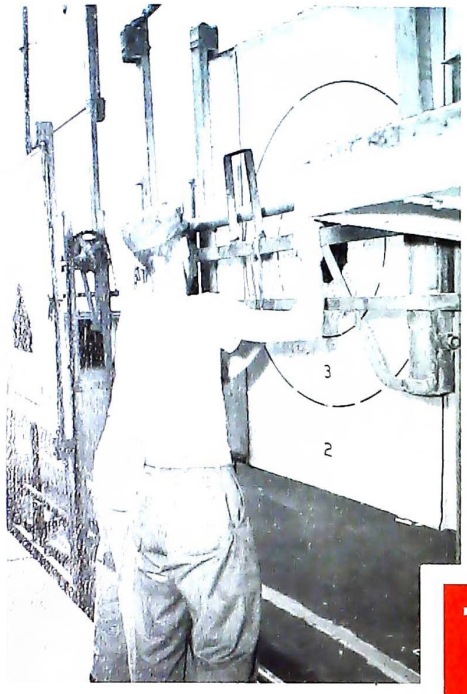
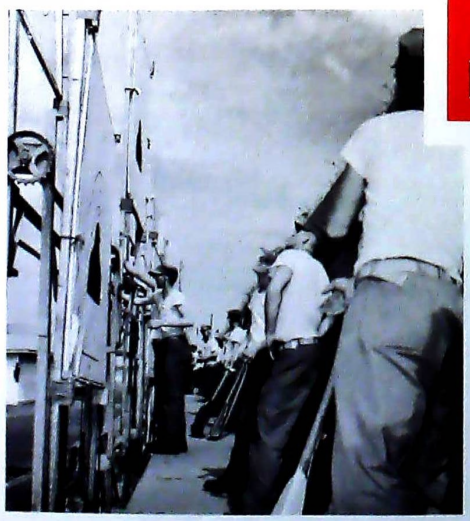
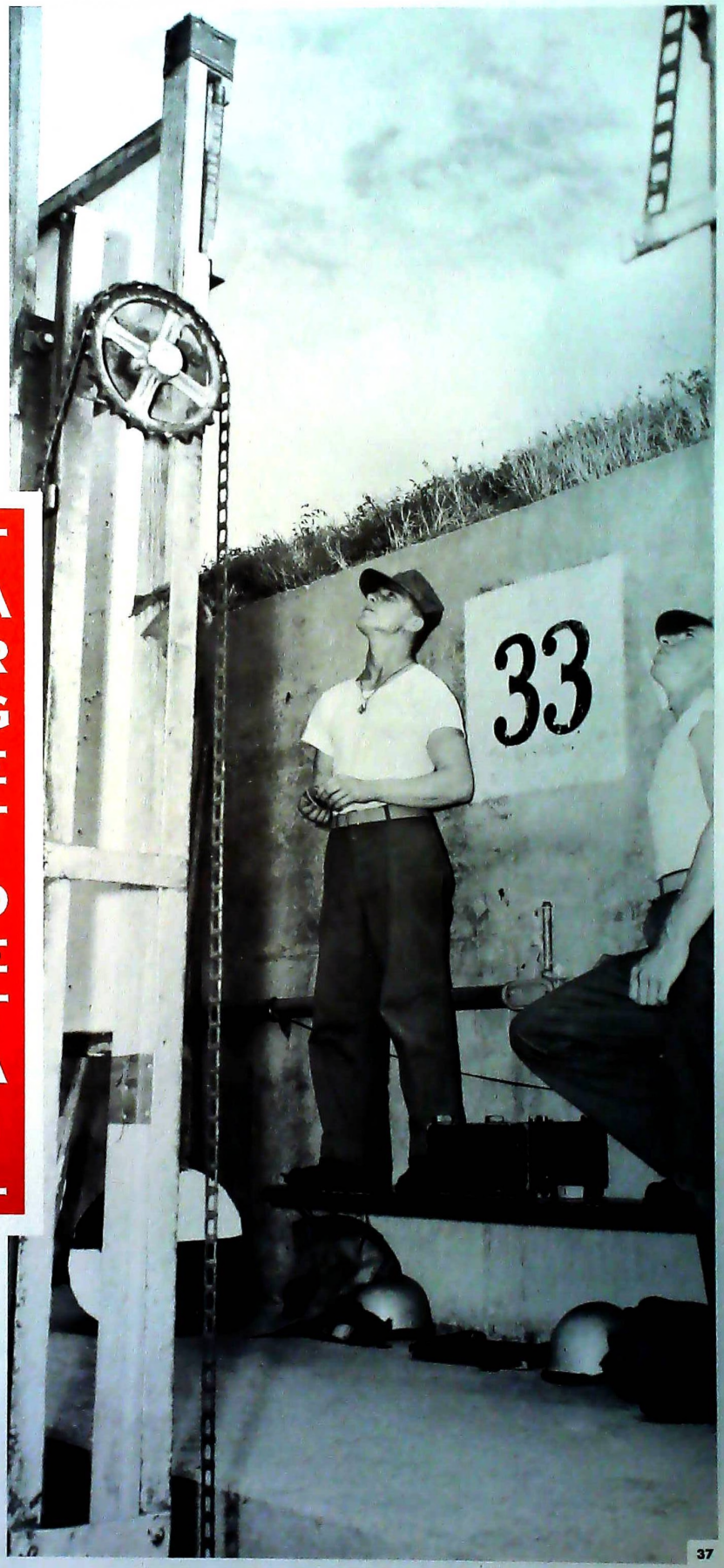


TARGET DETAIL

DURING the three weeks recruits spend at the rifle range they become very familiar with the targets used and procedure for marking and scoring the hits of shooters. They learn that the "A" target is used for 200 and 300 yard slow fire, the "B" target for 500 yard slow fire, and the "D" target for both 200 and 300 yard rapid fire.

Discs denoting 2, 3, 4, or 5 points, the red flag (or "maggies") for a miss, and the 3 and 5 inch black and white spotters are "tools of the trade" for a target detail when it's time to "go to the Butts."





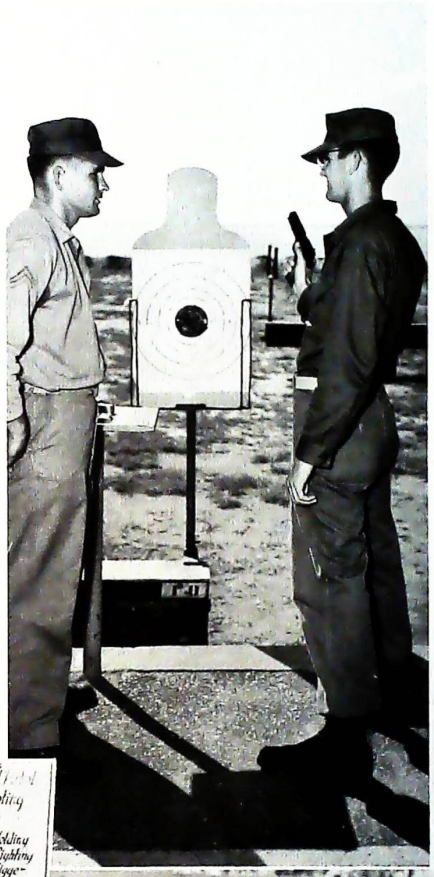
RECORD DAY

RECORD Day! That long awaited day at the rifle range that determines how well the recruit has learned to use his rifle is also the day that will settle the friendly bets made on "who the best shooter is."

Record day also causes worry, thought, and even honest prayer. What type of weather will it be? Sunny, cloudy, dark, overcast, calm, or worst of all—windy, which? Climatic conditions have much to do with the score shooters will achieve on record day. A recruit must live with his score, whatever it is, good or bad, because record day can only come once a year—and he will be proud or regretful of his score until he requalifies the next year.

As the recruits watch their buddies firing, they will make mental notes on each thing they have been taught and try to improve themselves right up to the time they squeeze that last shot. Record day leaves a big mark on the recruit, and its excitement will long be remembered. After all, that's why he's a Marine: Because that rifle can't fire itself!

RECRUIT RIFLE AND PISTOL TEAM



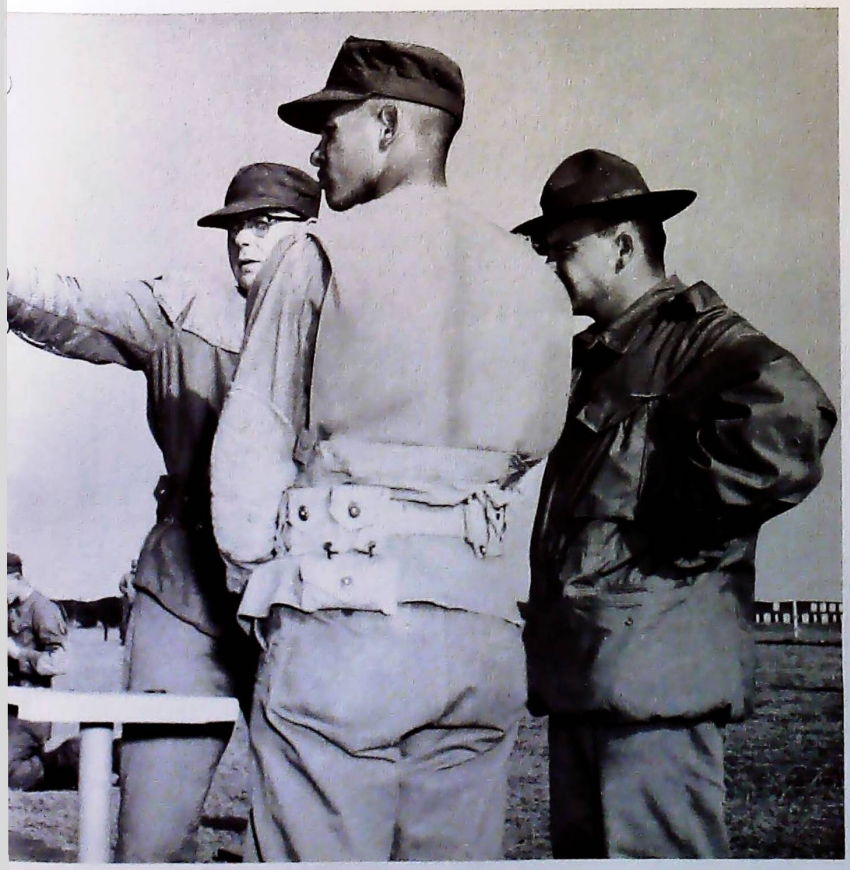
CLEANING RACKS

THE cleaning racks are where you will find the platoons of shooters after the day's firing is over. Realizing that the majority of rifles which become unserviceable do so from lack of care and cleaning, recruits make every effort to see that their weapons are well cared for. The Drill Instructor is there to remind them. After each period of firing, platoons march straight to the cleaning racks, which are long tables located near the firing range, constructed so as to furnish an adequate place in which to disassemble, clean, and reassemble the rifles.

PISTOL

ALL Marine recruits, even though they may not be normally armed with the .45 caliber pistol, fire a familiarization course with the pistol during their three-week period at the range. A similar familiarization course, but not for the record, is also fired with the .22 caliber pistol. Safety precautions, functioning, care and cleaning are also part of the instruction on the pistol.

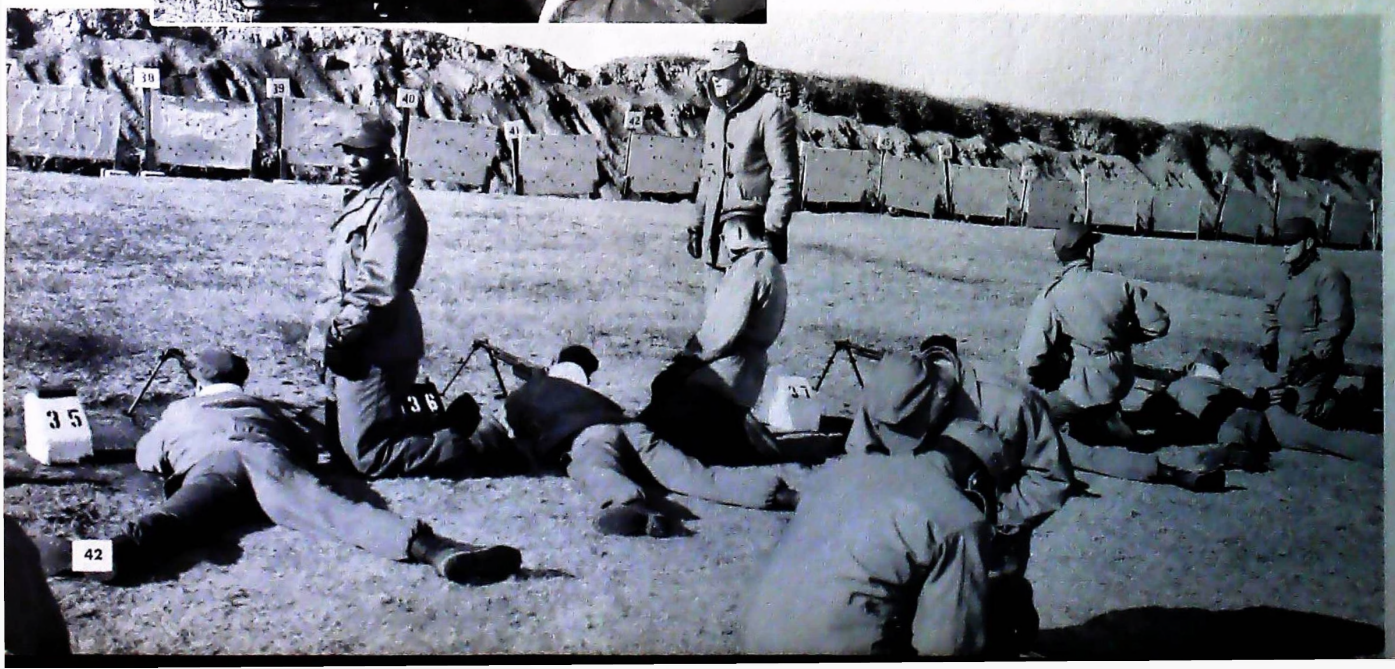
This course also makes for keen competition among recruits, as they look forward to adding a Sharpshooter or Expert Pistol bar to their Marine Corps Basic Medal. Only Officers and Master Sergeants are normally armed with the .45 caliber pistol; however, men of lower rank may be armed with it in the performance of guard, machine gunner, or other duty where carrying the rifle would interfere with the performance of their regularly assigned job.



B. A. R.

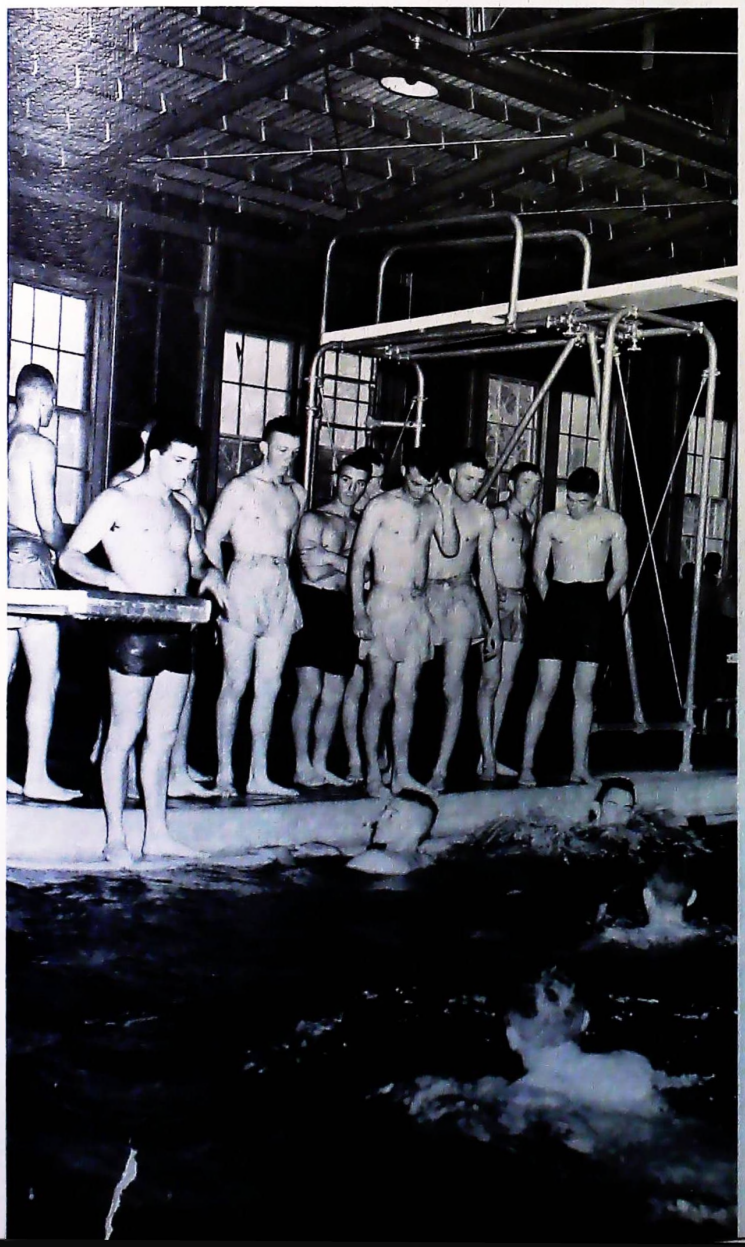
DURING the third week on the rifle range, recruits fire the famous Browning Automatic Rifle, or B-A-R as it is affectionately known. This course is only for familiarization with the weapon, and no record firing is done. Each recruit has classes of instruction in the assembly and disassembly of this weapon, then he fires 75 rounds through the B-A-R on the 1,000 inch range.

Each recruit loads his own clips with 15 rounds per clip, and then fires them all at once. This firing is usually done after Record Day and completed in the one phase.



SWIMMING

FOR Marines, whose primary role in the Armed Forces is amphibious operations, swimming is an important phase of each recruit's 12 weeks of training. Swimming tests are given the recruits when they first join the platoon; those who don't qualify are not held back in training, but are scheduled to return to the class until they do qualify. The test includes swimming 100 yards "free" style, treading water for 30 seconds using hands and feet if necessary, and floating on the back using hands and feet as auxiliary support. Lectures, demonstrations and applications of artificial respiration are also given, along with life-saving methods and techniques.

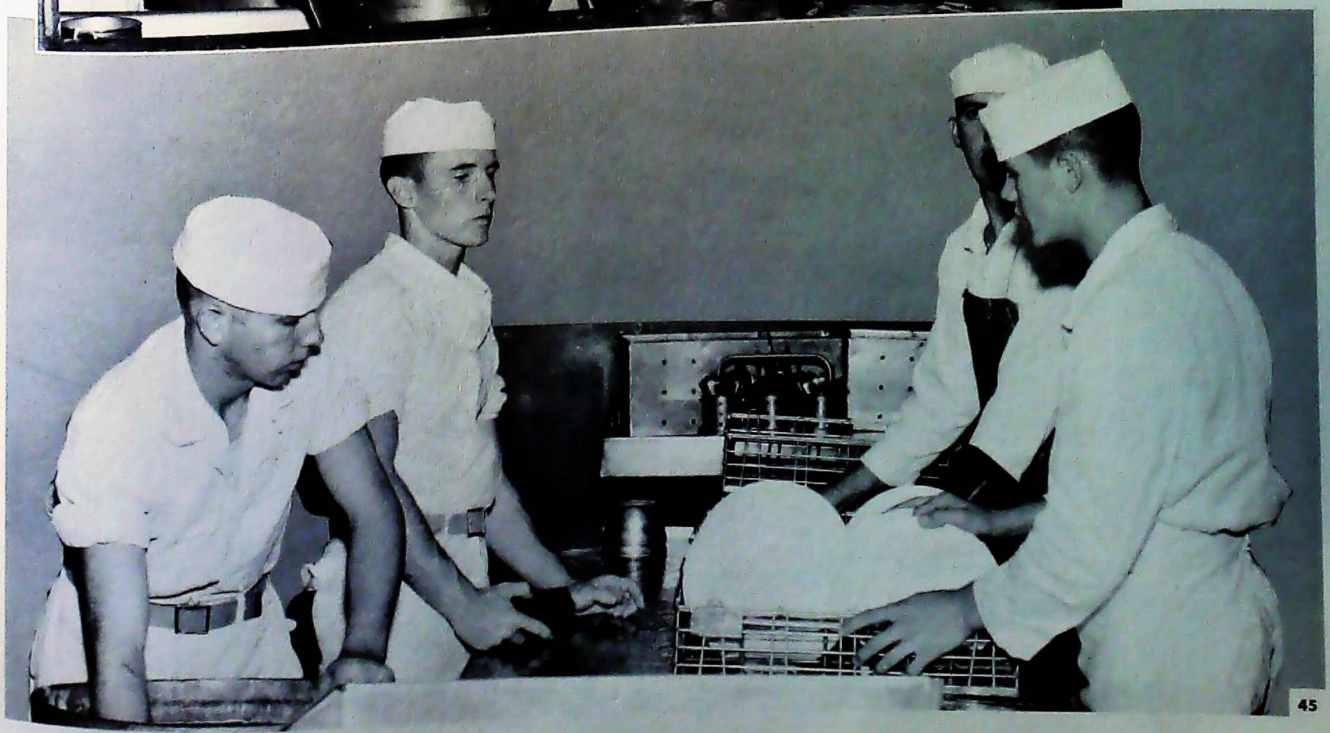


MESS DUTY

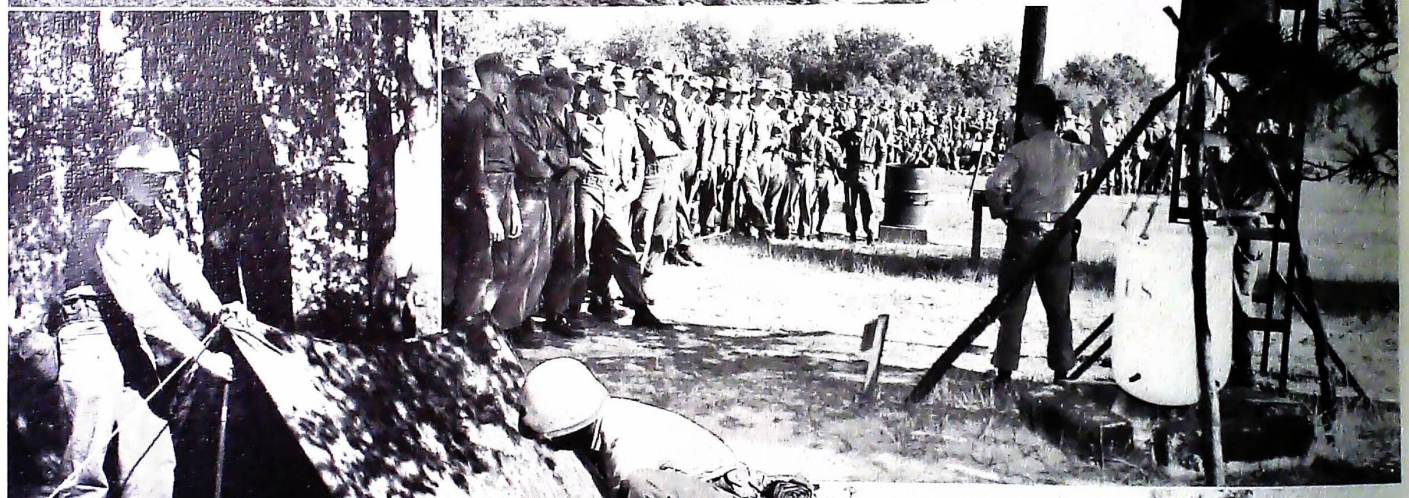
MESS Duty is more or less a "necessary evil" in the opinion of most Marines. However, all Marines, at one time or another, have probably "pulled" one or more periods of Mess Duty. Popularly misconceived as being a minor punishment for some wrong-doing, mess duty is in reality an important phase of the normal daily routine of any military organization.

The wisdom of the old saying that "an army travels on its stomach" has been borne out many times when military units have been cut off from their source of food supply and thereby rendered impotent. In view of this accepted truism, persons serving on mess duty can well say that they are contributing to the high morale of the unit, as well as performing an essential duty.

Mess duty is normally performed by men of the ranks of Private and Private First Class, with some Corporals assigned as Chief Messmen, to supervise and coordinate the work of the messmen.

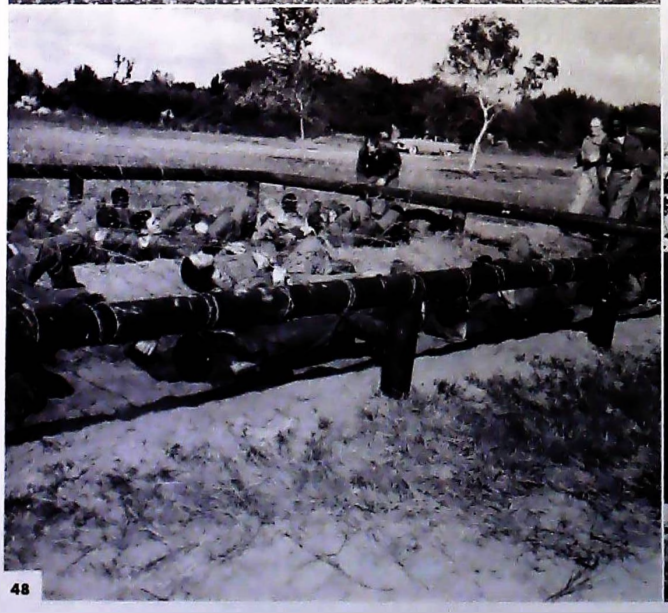


ELLIOT'S BEACH



60-DAY EXAMINATION

FINAL FIELD



ELLIOTT'S Beach March covers a lot of ground, both in walking distance and Marine training. When recruits are scheduled for this hike, they can be sure they will have their hands full for one day and night away from their Company area.

The recruits leave the battalion area and march to the Depot Parade Ground where they have an inspection of the field equipment that is used during this extended stay in the field. They lay out all items of equipment in a prescribed manner, including the Field Transport packs, entrenching tools, helmets with camouflage covers, rifles, belts, bayonets, canteens, first aid packets and pouches. After they successfully pass the inspection, the platoon marches to the Bayonet Course, where each man in the platoon runs the obstacle course. From the obstacle course the next "leg" of the march is to Page Field. Here the recruits are given a fifteen-minute rest period that enables them to check equipment and inspect their feet for blisters, administer first aid if needed, and change to dry socks.

The next leg of this hike, over a "jungle trail" from Page Field to Argonne Park is a Forced March; although there is no maximum time limit, the shorter the time, the more points the platoon accumulates. From Argonne Park the platoon goes on to Elliott's Beach, where tents are pitched for the night; after chow and mail call, turning in to sleep in a pup tent ends an exhausting but interesting day.

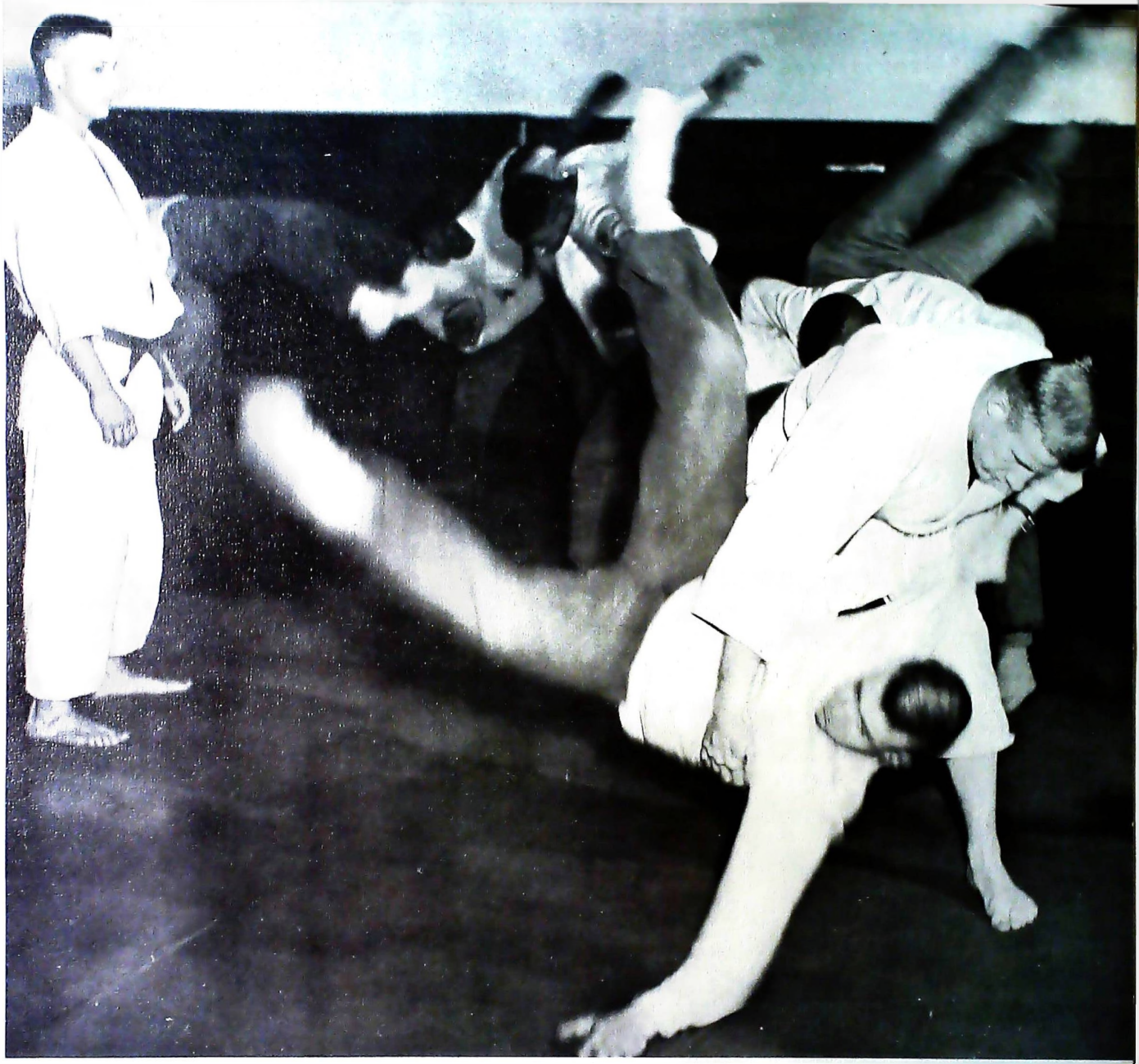
The return trip "mainside" is made the following day, when preparation for Final Field is begun.

BAYONET

EFFECTIVE use of the bayonet in combat depends about 90 per cent on sheer aggressiveness. Cold steel on the end of a rifle brings fear to anyone facing it, and the sight of an onrushing, determined, aggressive, yelling Marine has caused many an enemy to turn tail and run to his doom. Bayonet training engenders a confident, aggressive spirit of power and confidence in the individual fighter. Often firepower alone cannot drive the enemy from his foxhole; he will remain until he is driven out in hand-to-hand combat. The winner of a hand-to-hand struggle is the one who is most aggressive, rushing in unhesitatingly to bowl over his opponents. At night, when secrecy is essential, the bayonet is a weapon of silent surprise.

Recruits learn bayonet training in two phases: first, they learn how to hold their rifles, how to balance themselves on their feet, and how to make that bayonet "whistle" when it moves. The positions now used are different from old-style methods and have proved more effective in combat. The new style is known as the "Boxer Type" bayonet fighting. Some of the movements are the SLASH, VERTICAL BUTT STROKE, HORIZONTAL SLASH, HORIZONTAL BUTT STROKE, and JAB. All of these movements start from the GUARD position, using an aggressive, ever-advancing fighting style.

When recruits have learned the correct movements, they pass on to the second phase, which is actual hand-to-hand combat among themselves using pugil sticks and protective equipment to avoid injury. This equipment consists of boxing gloves, helmets, padded pugil sticks, and "armored Bikinis." Mixing it up in individual and team pugil-stick bouts develops the recruit's speed, balance, timing, and aggressiveness. He learns to "get there fustest with the mostest" he has in him.



JUDO

JUDO is a relatively new subject in Marine Corps recruit training, but it has received quick recognition as a valuable course in the training program. Judo — the art of self-defense without weapons — depends largely upon the principle of making use of an opponent's weight and strength to disable or injure him.

Judo is taught in two phases. First, recruits learn the correct way to fall, the proper balance, and the fundamental techniques upon which the art of Judo is based. The recruit must know these fundamentals not only as a basis for the "throws," but also because he can then land safely without injury when he begins to practice Judo on his buddy. Following instruction in the fundamentals, he learns the basic throws, which include the hip throw, arm throw, stomach throw, outer reaping throw, and others.

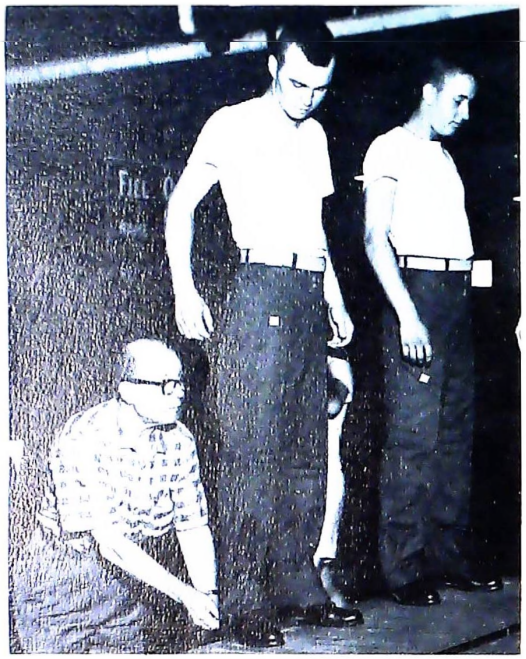
The second phase introduces more advanced instruction dealing with defense against a knife or stick, locating the vital spots of the body, and the way to attack these spots so as to render an opponent helpless.

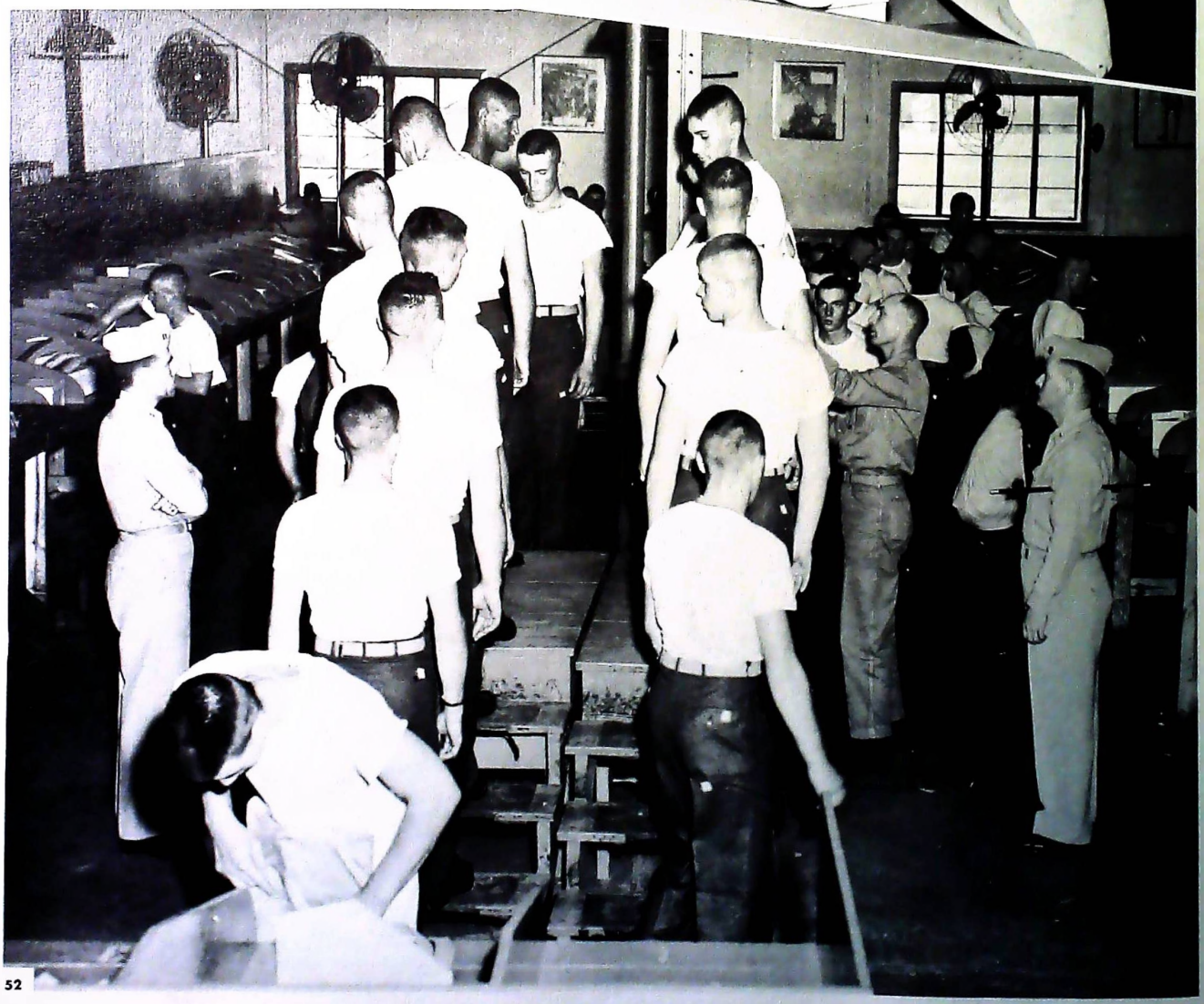
The recruits are taught also how to quietly and quickly disarm or do away with an enemy sentry.

Many of the recruits have never before had body contact sports in any form. After Judo classes, they are better able to protect themselves in any hand-to-hand combat or life and death struggle they might encounter. Judo develops alertness, improves their coordination, and instills confidence in their ability to protect themselves.

Judo is taught by instructors highly-trained in the art, men who have won distinction in competition and many of whom have gained their knowledge and skill in Japan.

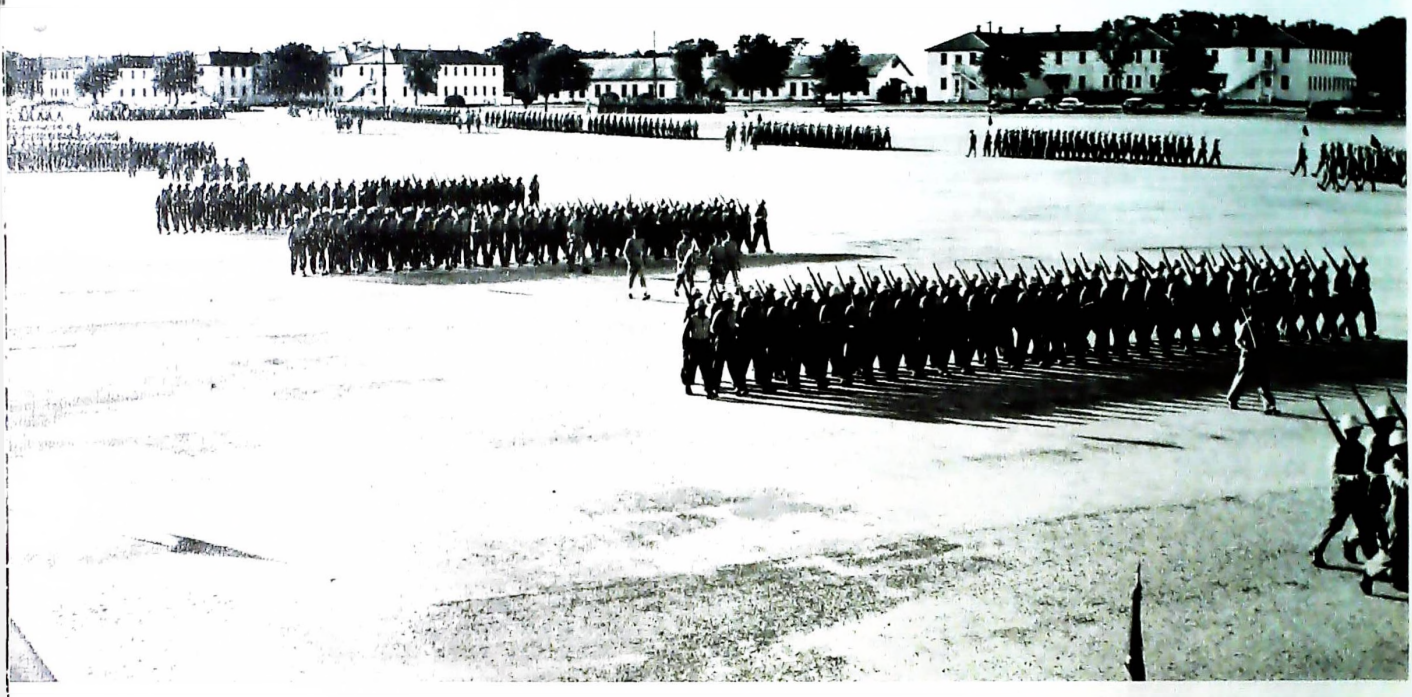
UNIFORM ISSUE

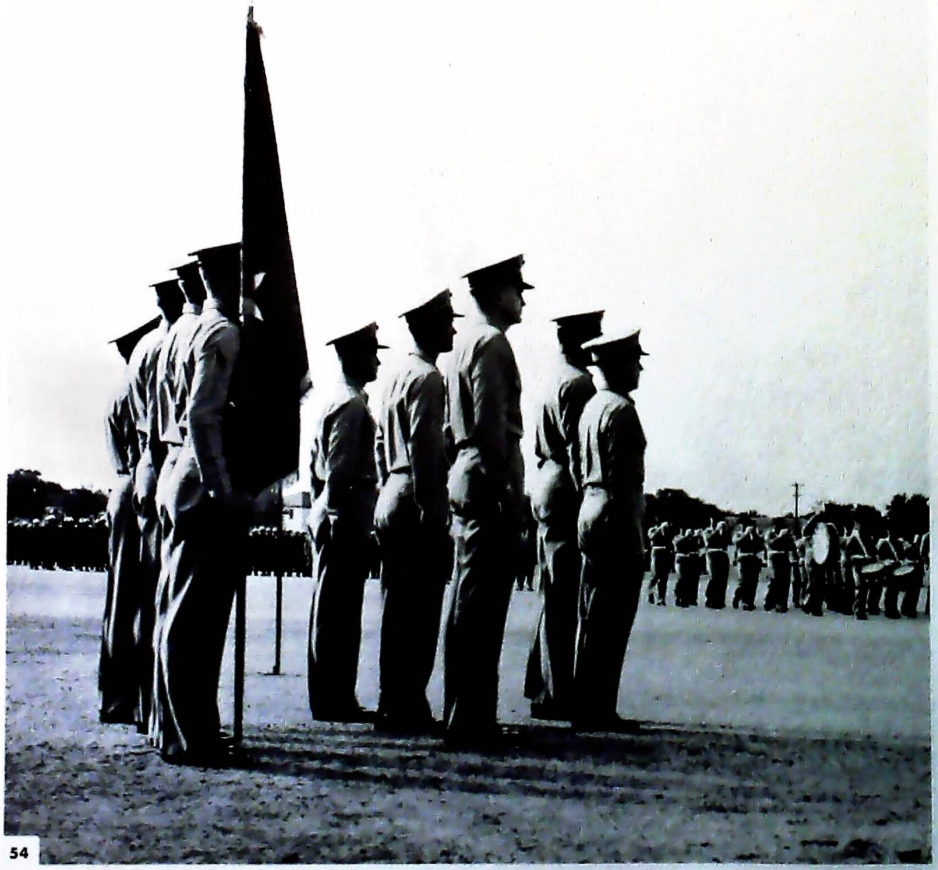




DISCARDING their civilian clothing upon arrival for recruit training, recruits begin drawing their uniforms. Only dungarees, shoes, socks, and underclothes are issued them at first. Neither khaki, tropicals, blues, nor greens are necessary initially, as all early training is done in dungarees. Later in the training schedule the platoon goes to the Clothing Issue section and recruits are fitted for their other uniforms.

Khaki, tropicals, and greens are issued them, and should the recruit want them, Dress Blues can be purchased. All clothing is checked for proper fit and any alterations required will be made at no cost to the recruit. Later in the training schedule, this altered clothing will be picked up. Tradition-wise Marines are known for their neatness, and uniforms are altered to fit—and fit perfectly.





PARADES

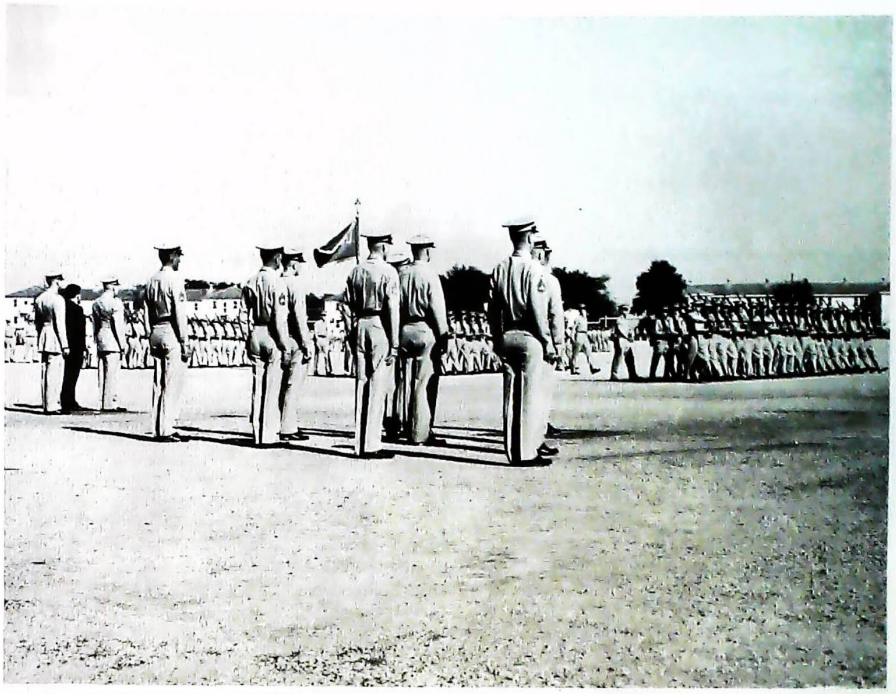
WHEN the crack Eighth & "I" drill team from Washington, D. C., gives a demonstration on Parris Island, every recruit can see the beauty of precision drill and feel the determination within himself to practice until he can perform likewise.

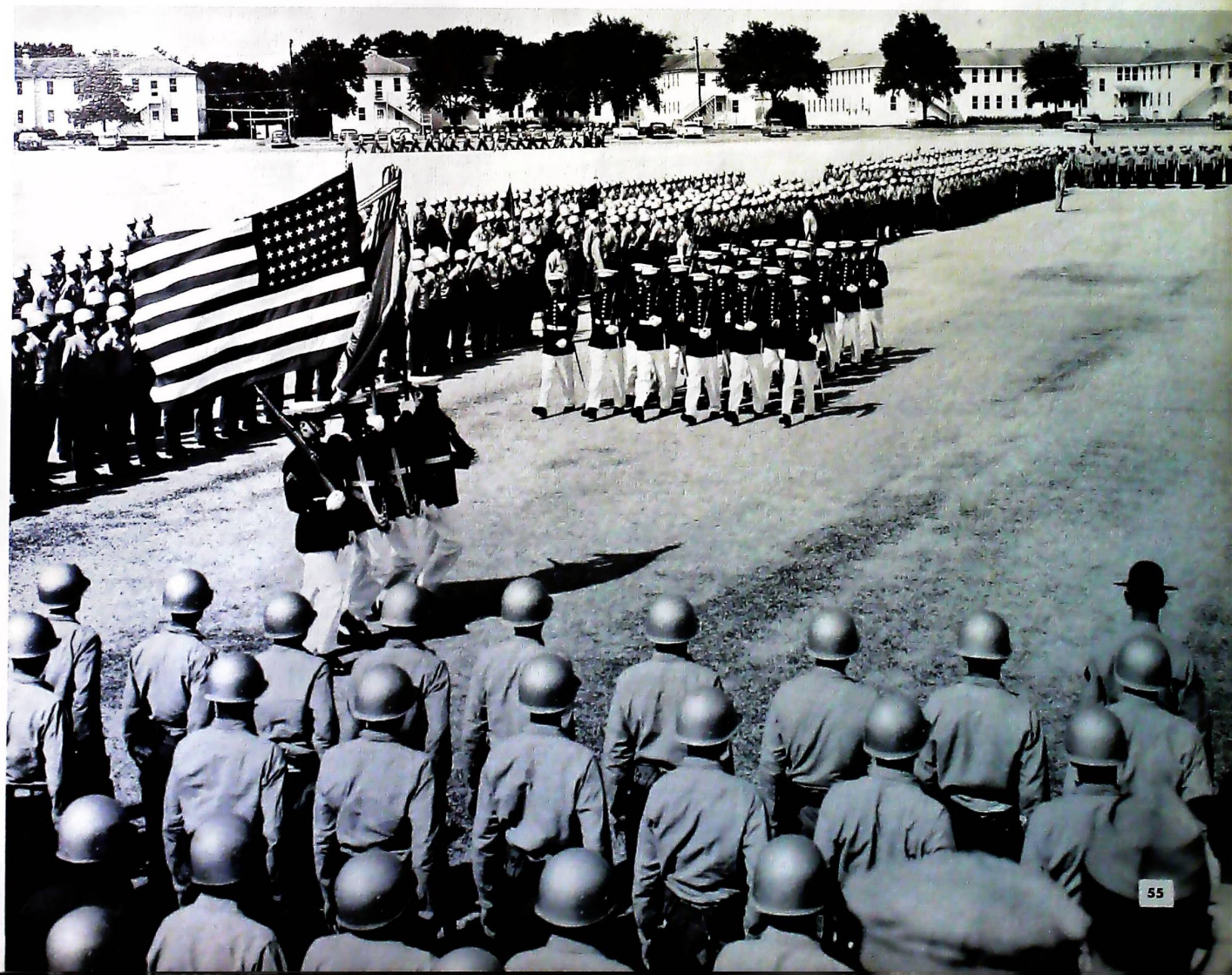
REVIEWS

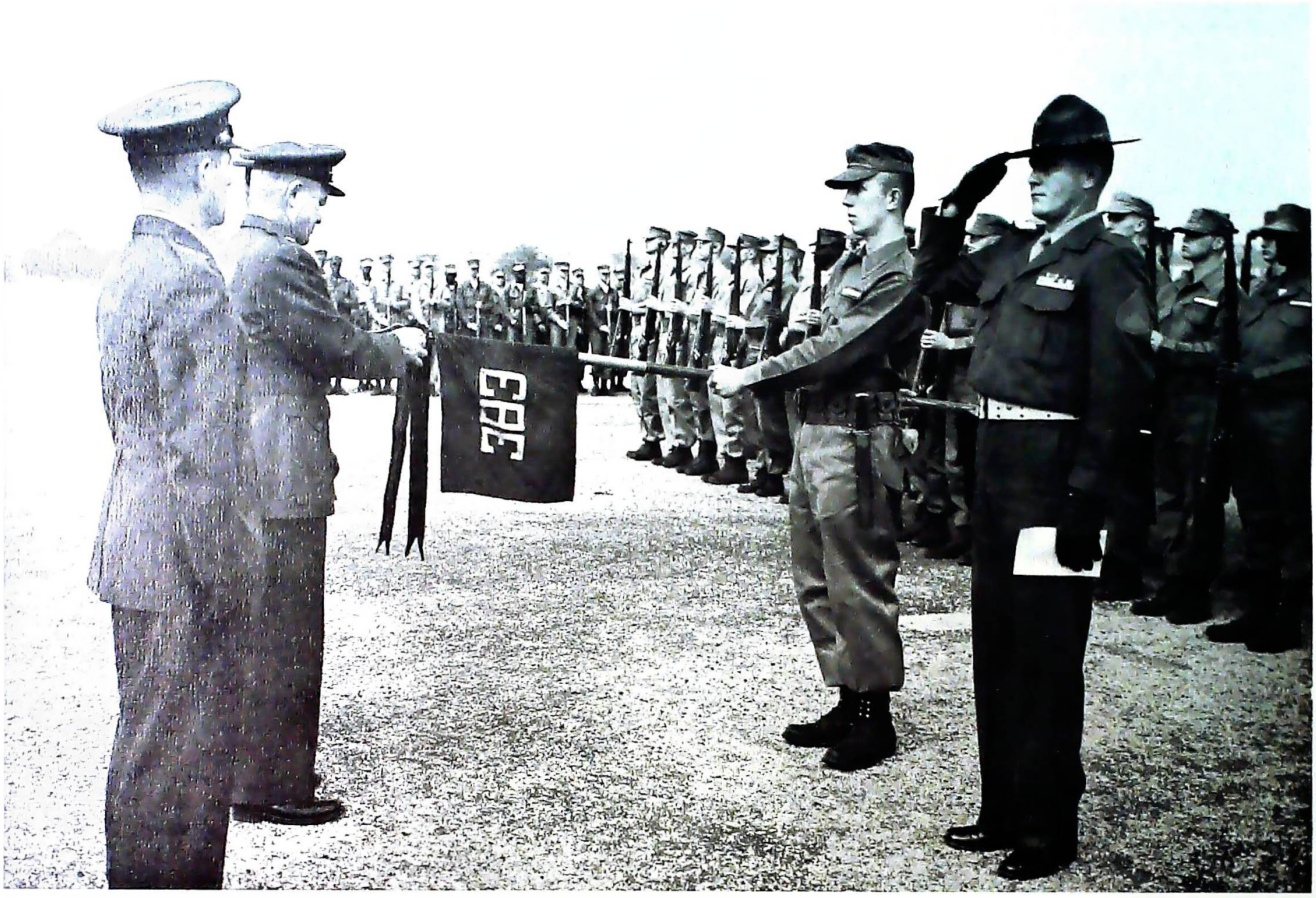
REVIEWS, parades, and other ceremonies honoring dignitaries, officials, and individuals become second nature to Marines, long recognized as one of the world's smartest military organizations, and who are consistently called upon to participate in ceremonial occasions.

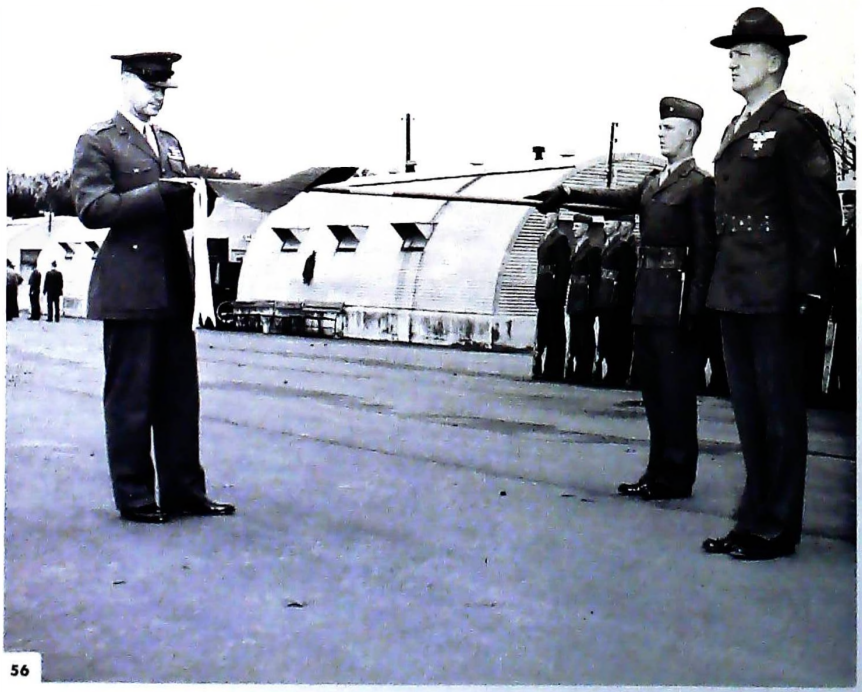
Recruits become familiar with parades and reviews early in their training, as they are called upon to participate in weekly parades on the post. Instruction on parades, reviews, guard mounts and other phases is very thorough, because each recruit might be called upon many times during his enlistment to take part in these activities.

On patriotic holidays even the recruit platoon may be given the opportunity to participate in parades and ceremonies sponsored by nearby cities or veterans' organizations.









PLATOON AWARDS

PLATOON Proficiency Pennants, or streamers as they are sometimes called, are awarded to the platoons who are outstanding in specific areas of their training. These pennants are won in competition with other platoons on both Battalion and Recruit Training Command levels.

The platoons are judged on Athletic Field Meets, Rifle Range Qualification, 60-Day Written Test, Final Strength Test, and Drill Competition. These pennants are attached to the Guidons of the winning platoons, and give visible recognition to the platoon winning the award.

Within the Battalion, the platoons engage in stiff competition to win the awards, then each top Battalion platoon competes with the winning platoon from other Battalions to capture the Recruit Training Command pennant. Battalion Commanders present the Battalion awards to their platoons, and usually the Training Command awards are made by the Commanding General of the Recruit Training Command.

BLUES AWARD

A VERY SPECIAL HONOR, known as the "Blues Award," is presented to the recruit who shows outstanding qualities during his recruit training. About one recruit out of every one hundred and fifty that graduate receives this award.

After competing with the other one hundred and fifty, the recruit is chosen who most nearly attains the characterization of the "Ideal Marine," as recommended by his Drill Instructor and adjudged by a panel of officers on Outstanding Character, Leadership, Military Bearing, Physical Condition, Performance of Military Skills, Duties and Marksmanship.

The award is in the form of a check for $33.65 — the purchase price of a complete set of Dress Blues. This award further carries the honor of being presented by the Commanding General of the Recruit Training Command. This award is sponsored by the Leatherneck Marine Corps Magazine.

RECRUIT RECOGNITION

THE AMERICAN SPIRIT HONOR MEDAL is a medallion offered and provided by the Citizens Committee for the Army, Navy and Air Force, Inc. of New York, N. Y. The American Spirit Honor Medal has been accepted by the Department of Defense for use as an award to enlisted personnel who, while undergoing basic training, display outstanding qualities of leadership best expressing the American Spirit — Honor, Initiative, Loyalty, and High Example to Comrades in Arms. This medallion has also been accepted by the Department of Defense for the promotion of closer ties between the Armed Services and the Civil Communities of the continental United States in which the Armed Services establishments are located.

RECRUIT OF THE DAY

ANOTHER HONOR bestowed on outstanding recruits is to be selected as "Recruit of the Day." Appointed by the Battalion Commander on the basis of neatness, military performance, and leadership qualities, the recruit accompanies the Commanding General of the Recruit Training Command throughout one full day as his orderly.

The Recruit of the Day wears a special arm band denoting this honor. He is considered to be one of the best recruits in his Battalion, and the honor for selection is rotated among Battalions so that every day there is a "Recruit of the Day."

RELIGIOUS LIFE

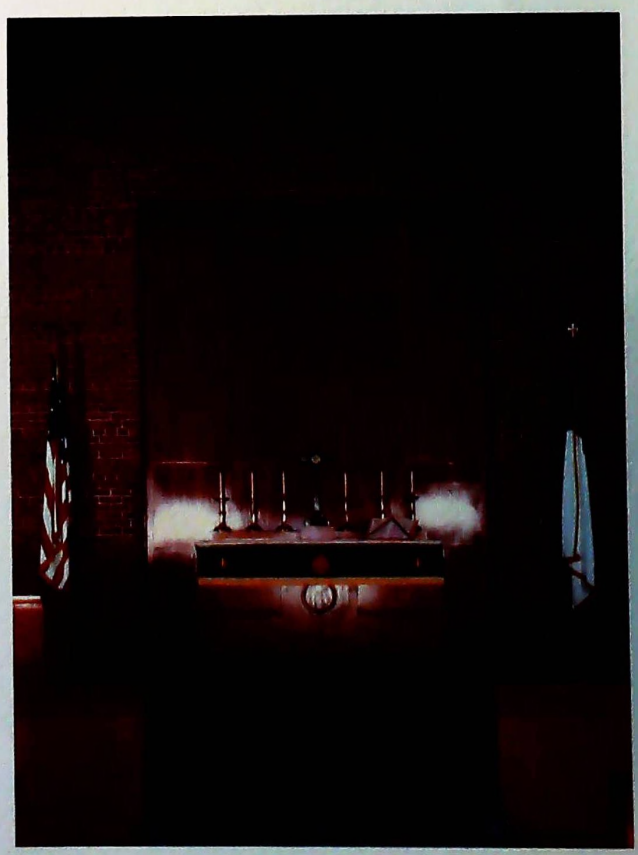
THE Marine Corps recruit leads a busy life. Every hour of his day as a recruit is carefully planned. He studies and practices an amazing number of subjects. These weeks of Marine training will change him in many ways.

It is the intention of the Marine Corps that the Marine recruit become a better man as well as a different man. This is accomplished through a character education program in which the recruit receives instruction in moral principles as part of his regular training.

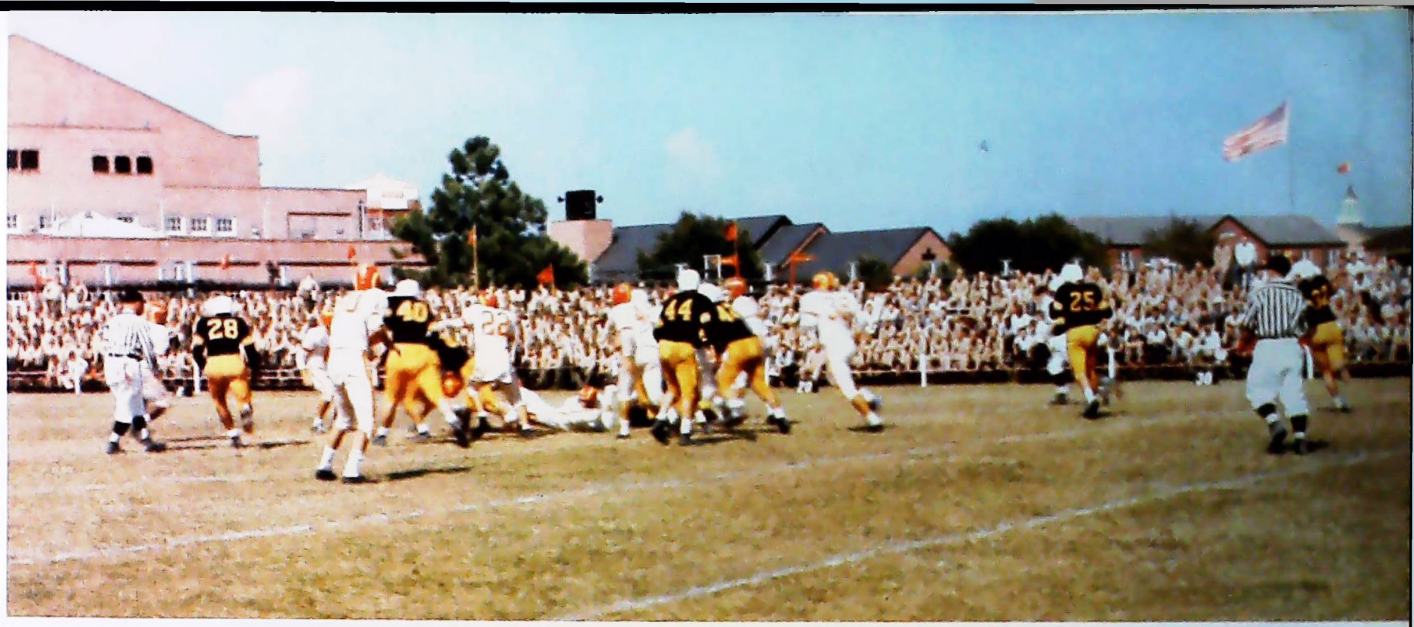
Chaplains greet recruits soon after their arrival at Parris Island. They explain how the recruit may choose, according to his faith, to receive religious instruction, attend confession, sing in one of the choirs, become a candidate for baptism or achieve bar mitzvah. The recruit is told how he may arrange to talk with the chaplain privately when he needs spiritual advice and counsel.

Chaplains of Roman Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faith conduct religious services on Sunday and during the week. All recruits are encouraged to attend religious services of their choice. If the Marine recruit has been brought up in church or synagogue he is assured that he will be given every opportunity to practice his faith not only at Parris Island but throughout his entire service in the Marine Corps.

NEW DEPOT CHAPEL



ATHLETIC FIELD MEET



CONTRARY to popular belief, recruit training is not all work and no play. Many different sports and athletics are taught as part of the regular training schedule. These include baseball, football, basketball, bowling, and many others. Team competition between platoons is encouraged. It prevents the physical training program from becoming a monotonous round of calisthenics.

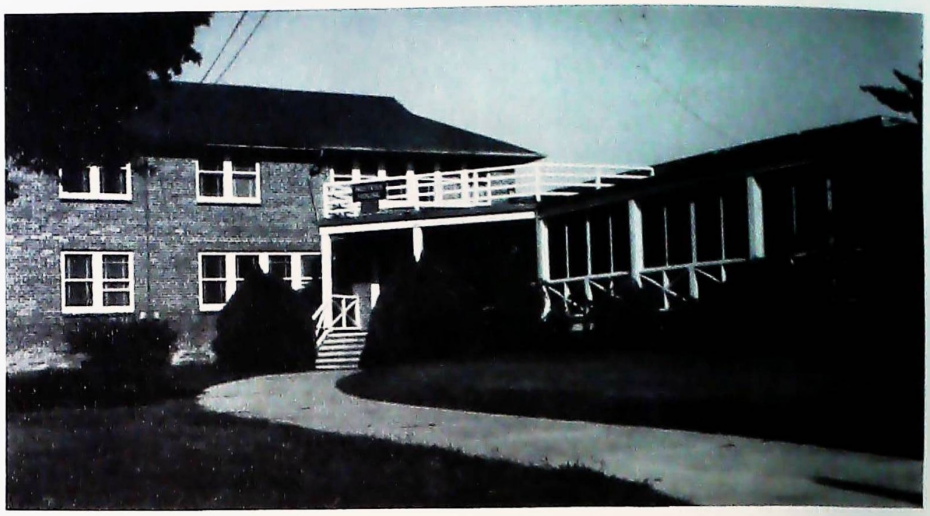
At the Military Field Meets, conducted one afternoon each weekend, all platoons vie to see which one is the best in the battalions. The athletics test the endurance of the individual recruit and also engender a keen team spirit in the platoon. Enthusiasm runs high and recruits cheer the other members of their platoon on. Each recruit must participate in every sport, so that there are no "spectator sportsmen."

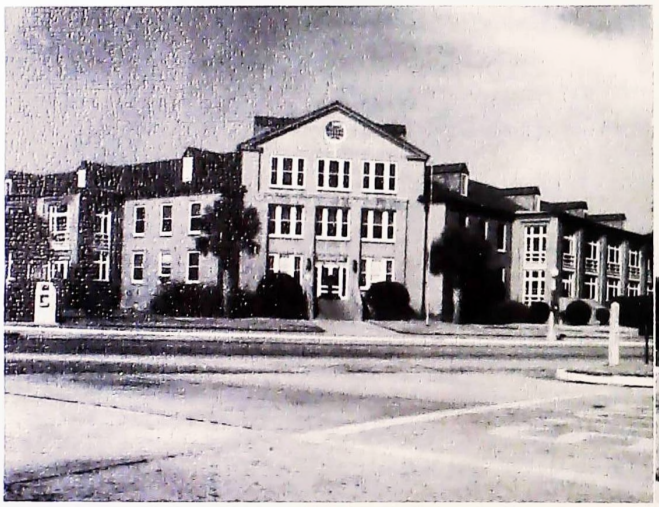
Parris Island, like almost all of the other Marine Corps installations, fields a varsity team in football, baseball, basketball, and softball. The games are scheduled with the varsity teams from other Marine Corps bases, other armed forces units, and colleges. Home games are primarily scheduled so that recruit platoons can attend the games without interruption of or interference in their scheduled training.

When the post band adds its musical support to the game and gives a marching demonstration during time out, the game is sure to be a spirited, colorful, and dramatic event which a recruit will long remember if he is one of the spectators.

HOSTESS HOUSE

Thirty-two rooms for visitors





HEADQUARTERS

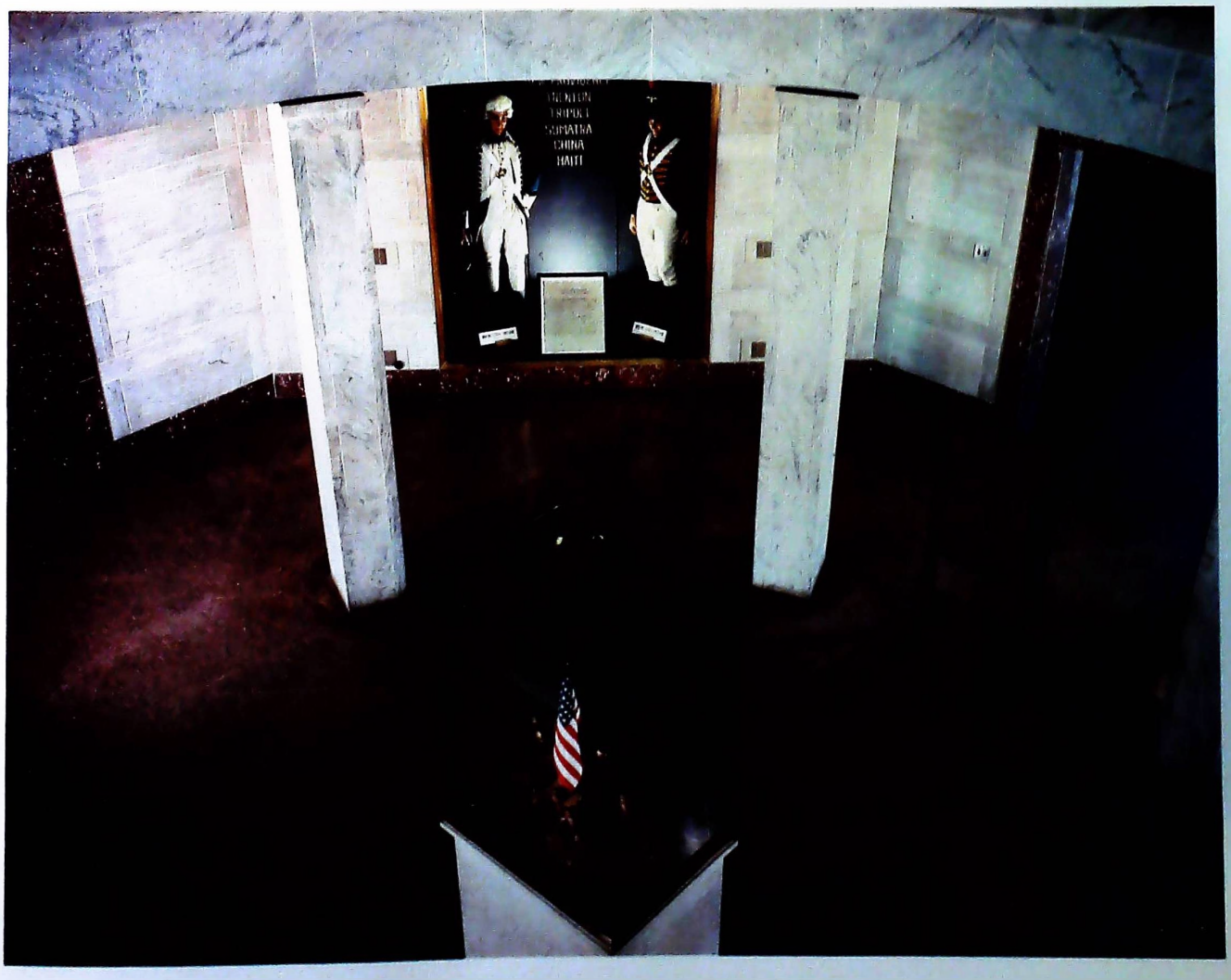
Recruit Training Command

POST OFFICE

POST EXCHANGE

Cafeteria, Snack Shop, General Merchandise, Bank and Photo Shop

WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING



FINAL INSPECTION

WHEN Final Inspection is scheduled the recruits and the Drill Instructors will try to "put their best foot forward," because this inspection will determine just how well the platoon and its individual recruits measure up to the standards set for Marines.

The inspection may cover any phase of the twelve-week training cycle on anything that the recruit has been taught during this period. And the recruits must be capable of performing any particular movement or command given them by the Drill Instructor or the inspecting officer. With a definite list of items to check, including uniforms, drill, rifle inspection, or the Manual of Arms, the inspecting team will add or subtract points, depending upon the manner in which the required skills are performed during the inspection.

After all platoons have been inspected, an especially worthy platoon which exceeds the required standard may be designated as an outstanding platoon. This designation is made at the conclusion of the inspection and the deserving platoon is awarded a streamer to be placed on the Guidon, as visible recognition of their achievement.

The Final Inspection is made by an impartial team of officers, each designated to cover a specific part of the inspection. They are fair but firm in the inspection, and their experienced eyes overlook nothing in this most important phase of recruit training; a recruit who failed to pass the inspection could be set back to undergo further training and not allowed to graduate until he became proficient enough to be a Marine.

P. X. PURCHASES

POST Exchange privileges are afforded all recruits while undergoing training. A tight and rigorous training schedule, however, makes it impossible for them to visit the exchange at their leisure.

While in training, recruits are required to visit the exchange with their platoon, at which time they may purchase toilet items, gifts, and magazines to last them until their next scheduled visit.

Post Exchange items, which are stocked for the express use only of Marines and their dependents, may be purchased by recruits at their own convenience after they have completed recruit training. Since exchanges are operated for the benefit of service personnel, all customers are required to show an identification card before they may purchase from the exchange.

PLATOON PICTURE

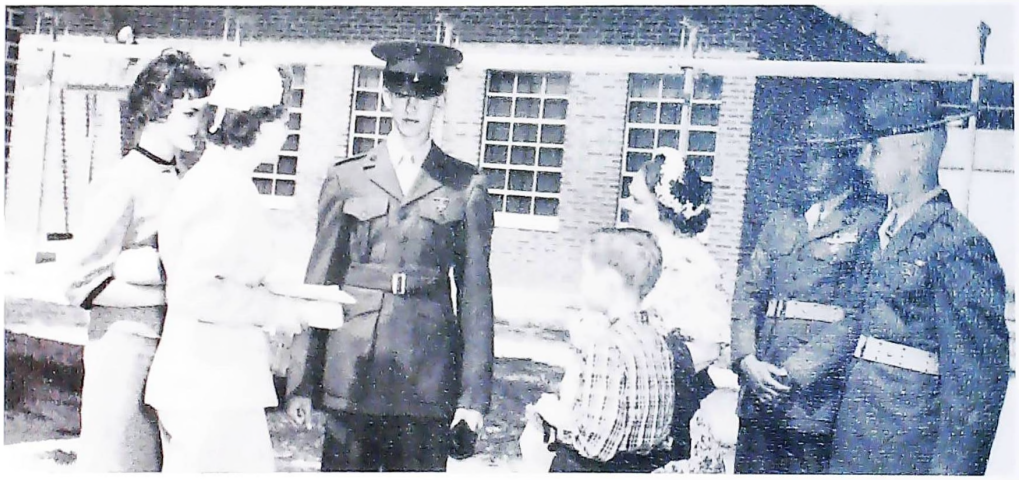
PLATOON GRADUATION

THE twelve weeks of training is over. Today at Graduation, all things pertaining to Recruit Training have been completed. Today they become full-fledged Marines, reaping the rewards of the past weeks of intensive training. Sometimes this goal may have seemed unattainable. But now as they stand at attention and think back over the trials and hardships they have overcome, they know why it had to be that way. Today they are Men.

As the Company Commander gives the order "Prepare for Graduation," the platoon tenses up, chills run up and down their backs, but the platoon functions as one man, and orders are carried out as they have never been before, sharp and precisely and confidently.

The Battalion Commander, and possibly the Commanding General, is there to give out the awards and congratulate them. To the Outstanding man in the platoon goes a certificate signed by the General; to the High Shooter goes another. Recognition is given to any man who has excelled in leadership during his training, and medals are presented to the qualified shooters in the platoon.

When your Drill Instructor gets the command to dismiss the platoon, you know the big day is over; your first step has been completed. You know that you will leave Parris Island as a United States Marine. For from this day on, you will always be a Marine, no matter where you go or what you do, for you have *Earned* that title.



SHIPPING OUT

AFTER twelve weeks of the toughest training anyone ever had (to hear them tell it) the recruits board a bus and "outpost." With all the tension, rush, and struggle behind them, they prepare to leave for Camp Lejeune for four weeks of Individual Combat Training and then fifteen days of leave at home.

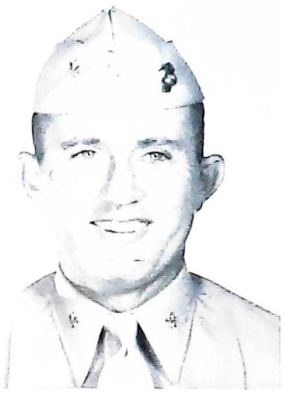
These Marines are proud of the uniforms they now are entitled to wear, and they look back over the past training as a demanding, challenging test, successfully met and completed. They also realize that the type of training, filled as it is with rigorous hours of incessant demands for perfection, was necessary so they would realize just how great is their capacity of strength, courage, and the ability to learn and then perform what often seemed impossible. They also realize now that the more they put into training, the more they got out of it.

Iron Mike

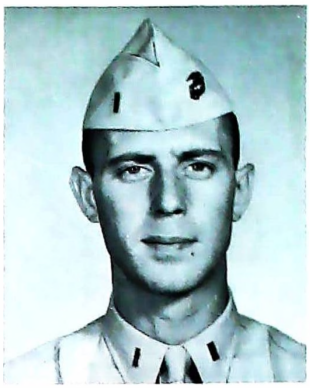
ERECTED in memory of the men of Parris Island who gave their lives for freedom's cause during World War I, this bronze statue, affectionately nicknamed "Iron Mike," has been a familiar landmark to more than five hundred thousand Marines who have trained here since. The memorial was erected from funds given entirely by comrades of the fallen Marines, and typifies the traditional fighting spirit of the Marine Corps. Iron Mike originally stood in front of the old Post Inn, now the Depot Hostess House, and was moved to its present site in front of the Headquarters and Service Building in 1940.

SECOND BATTALION
PLATOON 171

Form Date: 28 June 1957
Graduation Date: 26 September 1957



Lt. Col. F. I. Fenton, Jr.
Commanding Officer
Second Battalion



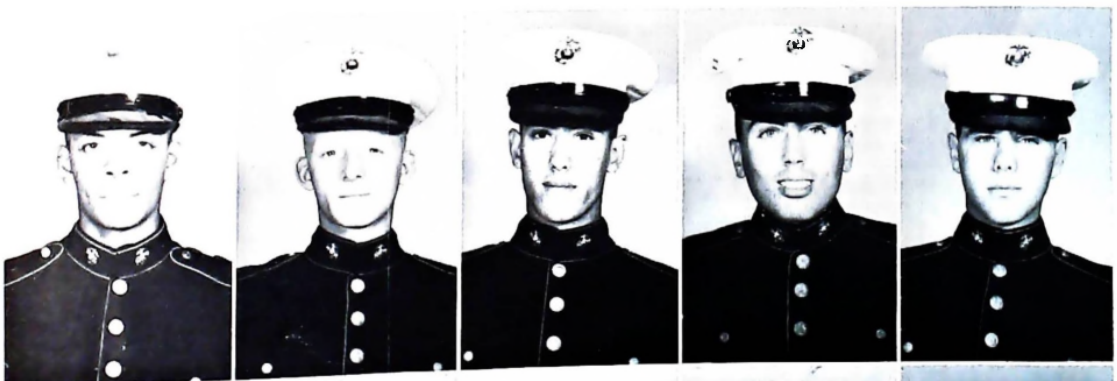
1st Lt P. H. Lyons
Commanding Officer
Company C

M/Sgt. F. J. Warwick

S/Sgt. R. A. Conn ly, Jr.
SDI

S/Sgt. W. R. Connell
JDI

Sgt. B. B. Jackson
JDI



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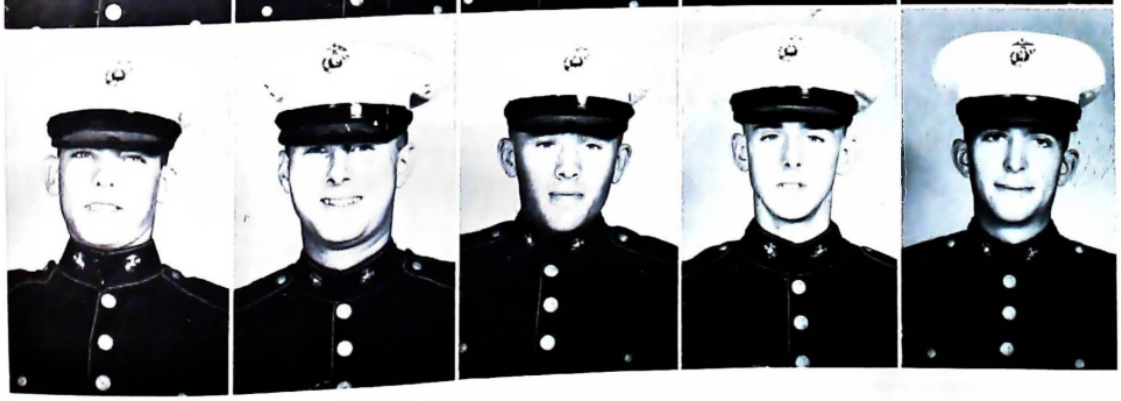
Jack L. Amaral
Alexander Amendola
George W. Arney



J. R. Ashworth
Robert H. Audet
James B. Bailey
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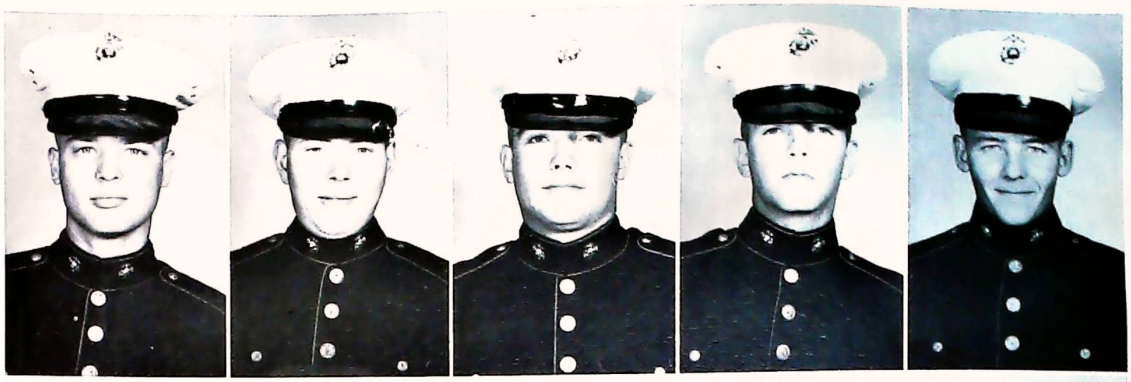
William T. Cameron
Leroy A. Carew



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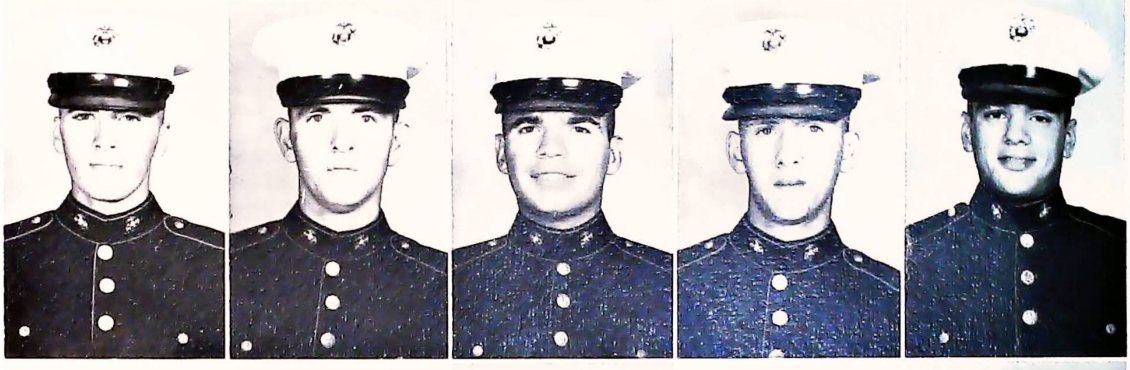

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Leslie A. Dahn
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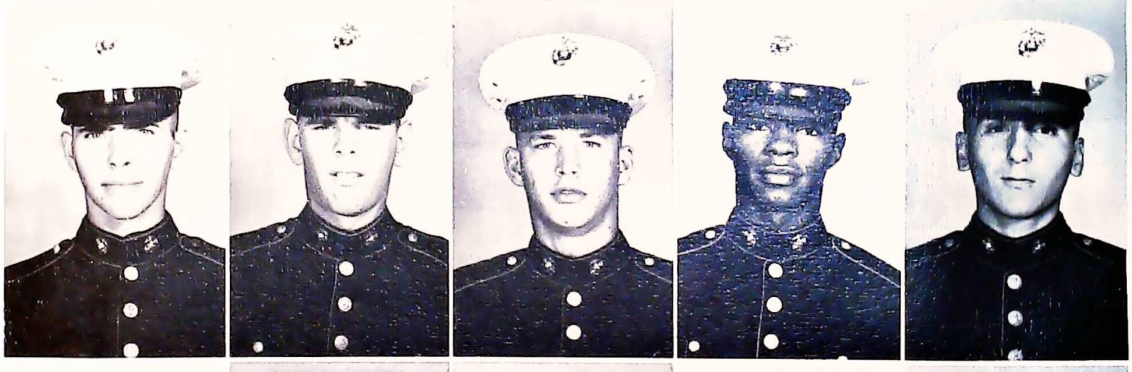
D. R. DeMarco



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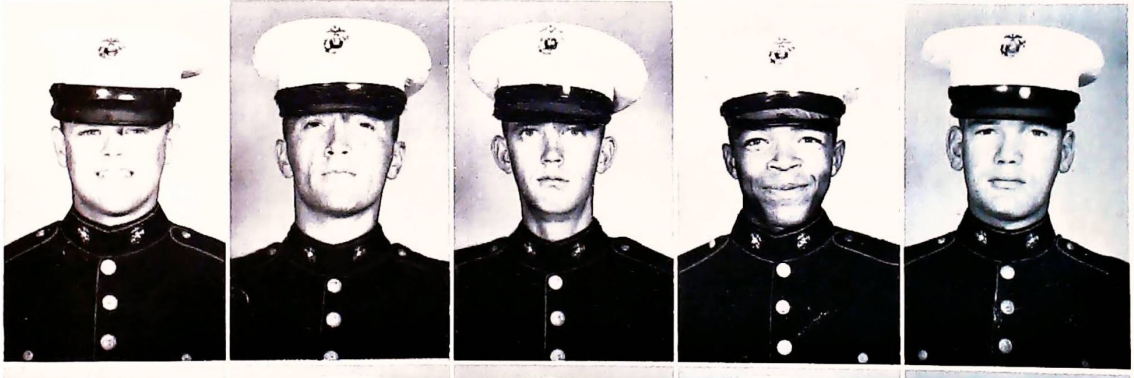

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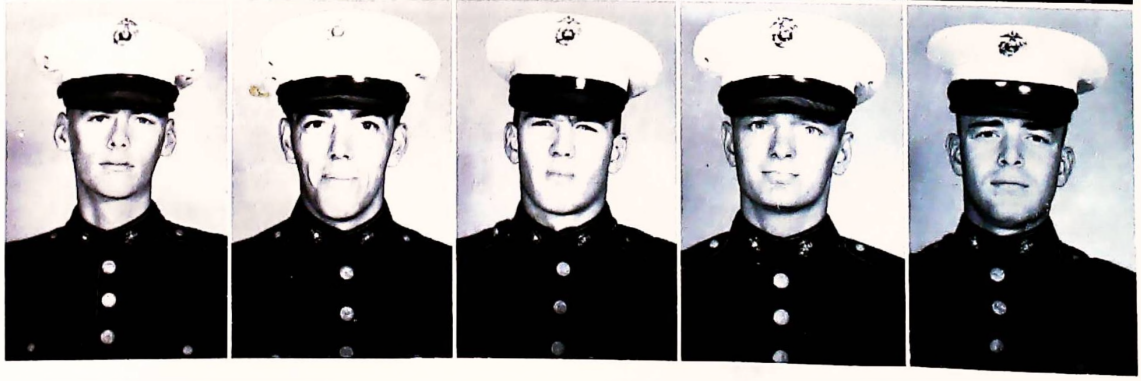

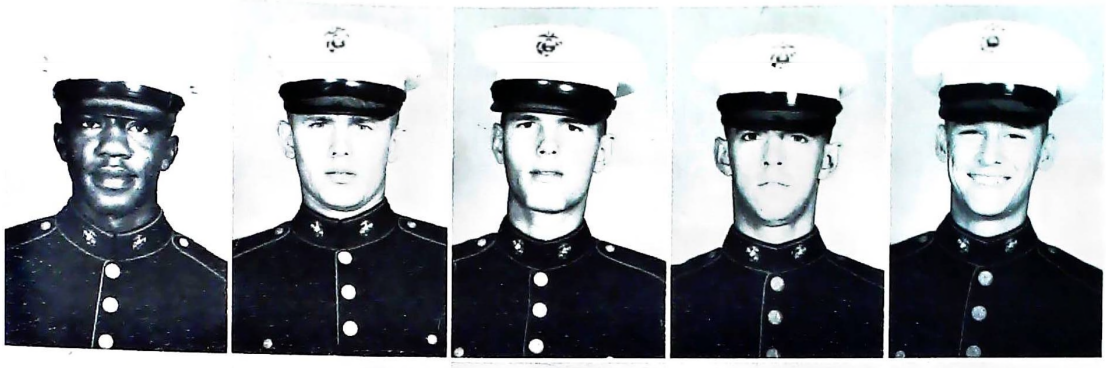

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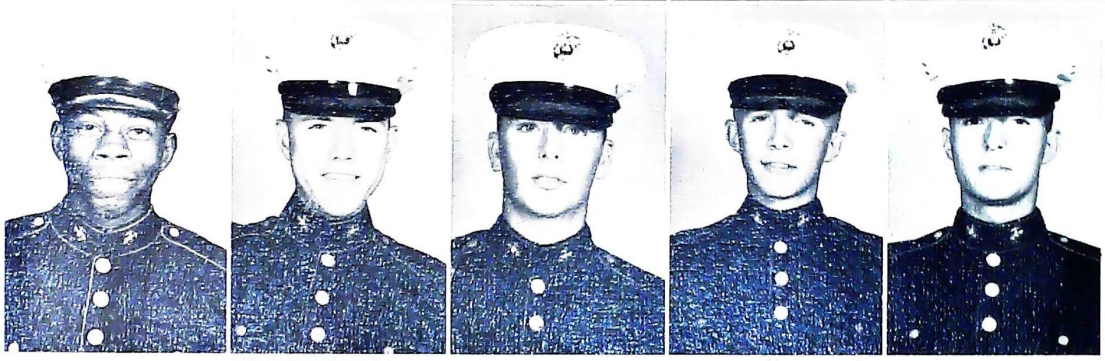

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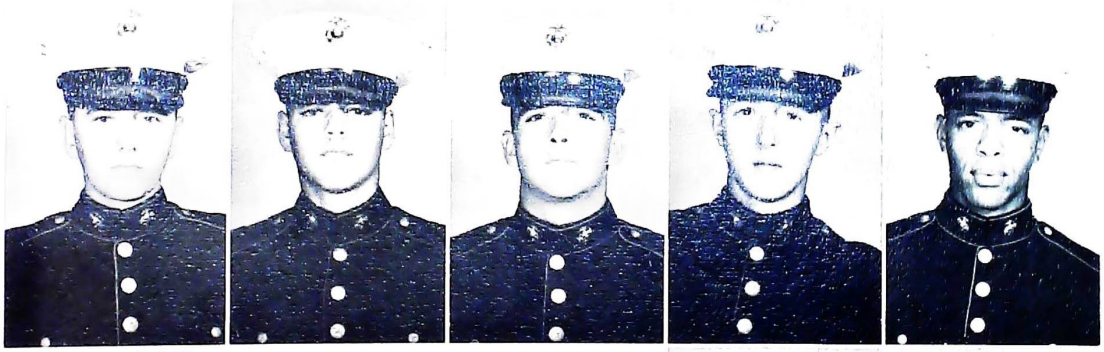

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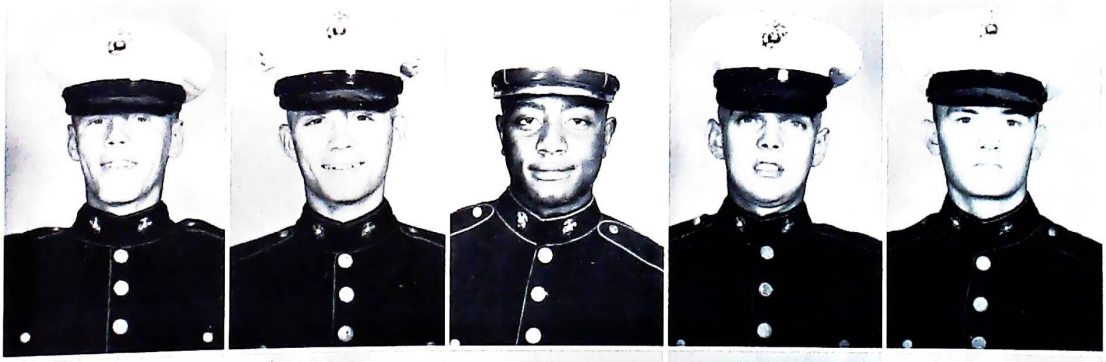

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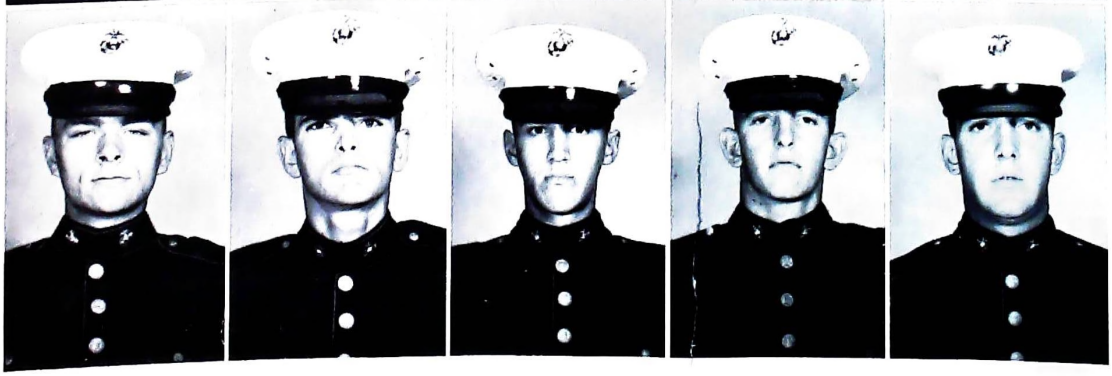

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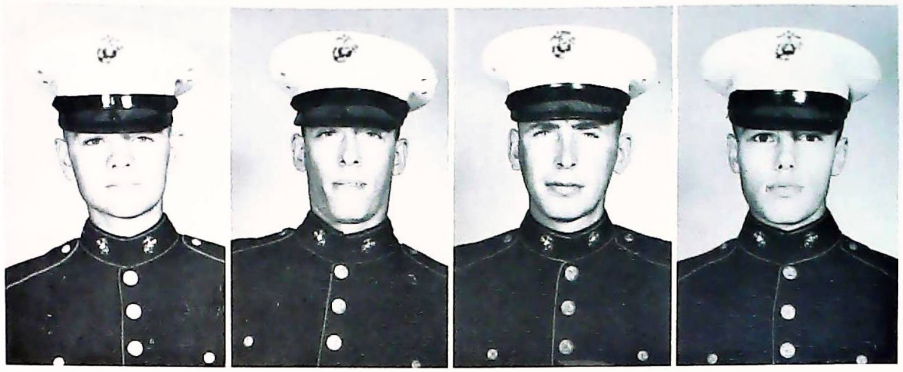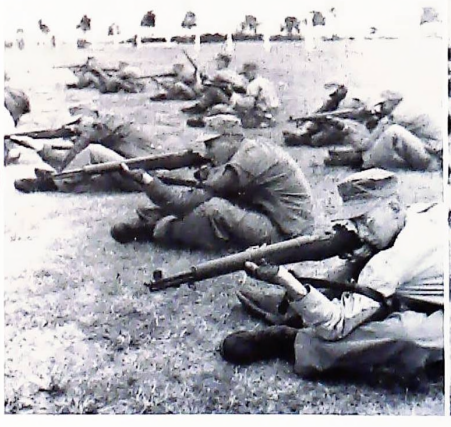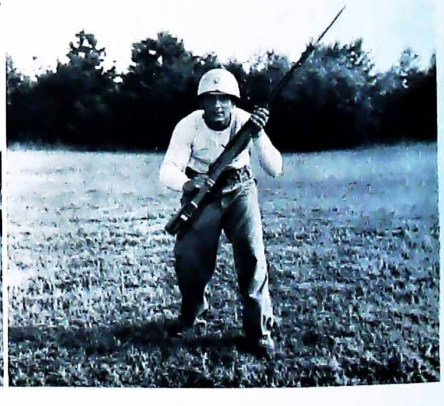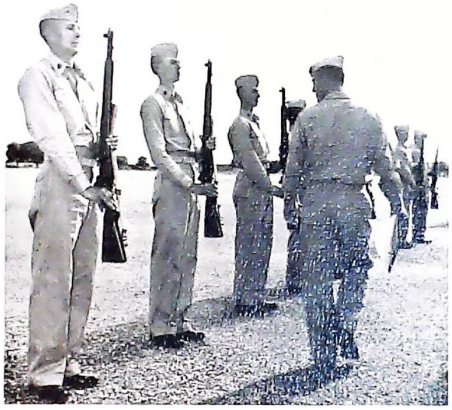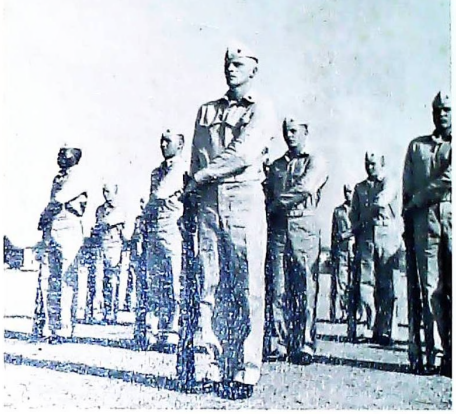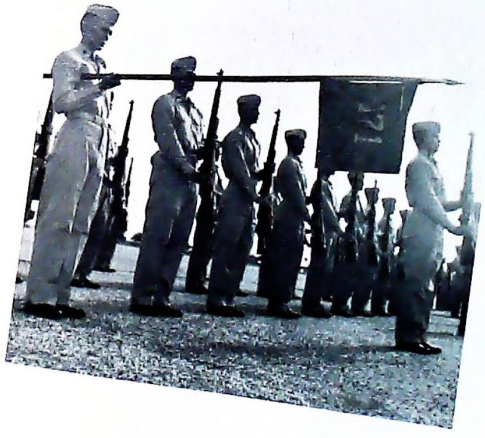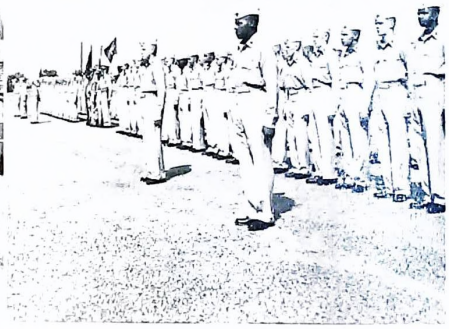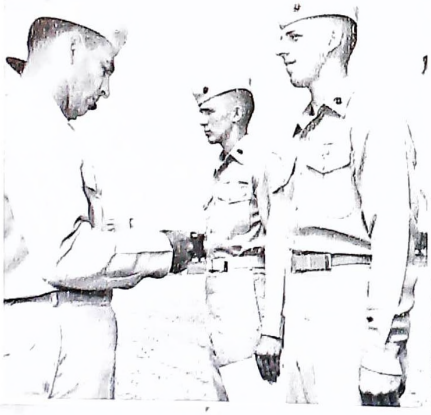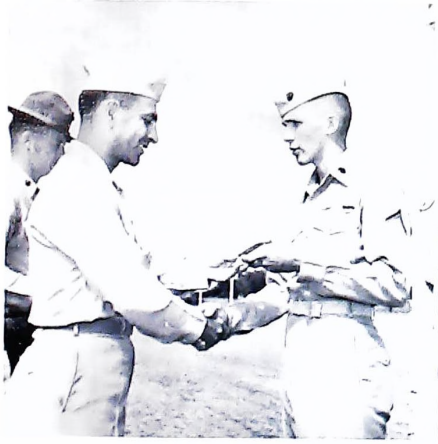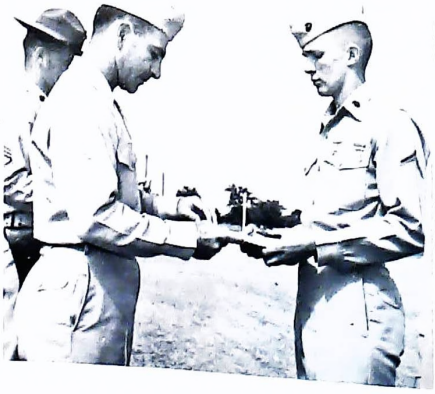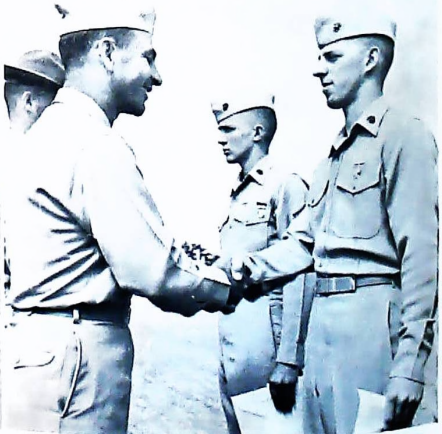
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